

County of Roscommon

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Parents and Students:

Our law enforcement has received numerous reports regarding students who are taking inappropriate pictures of themselves or their friends in different forms of nudity and then sending them to others. Some of these pictures are also being posted online or being shared on Snapchat and other phone apps. Due to the seriousness of these charges and the long-lasting effects that this type of behavior can have on our students, I am reaching out to make sure that all parents are informed of what is occurring. The schools and law enforcement have educated the 6th thru 12th graders at Roscommon, Houghton Lake, and Charlton Heston Academy about the laws and consequences but I feel it is essential that parents are informed as well.

There are three main criminal charges that we look at when charging these types of crimes:
Possession of Child Sexually Abusive Material which is a 4 year Felony;
Distributing Child Sexually Abusive Material which is a 7 year Felony; and
Child Sexually Abusive Activity which includes making and copying and is a 20 year Felony.

All of these charges if convicted may also require Sex Offender Registry depending on the age of your student. Other consequences include, these pictures ending up online and will never be removed, students are being bullied to the extent of suicide, and a student's future in school and employment can be impacted.

We need to work together to explain to our students that the choices they make today can impact their future. They need to understand that their boyfriend or girlfriend or whoever they are sending their pictures to will more than likely send it to other people and years from now those pictures can still be found. Unfortunately, due to the extent of what is going on and the fact that it is continuing even after we have made presentations, we are at the point that if this behavior continues we will have no other choice but to charge students.

I am advising you as parents to talk with your children, go through your children's phones, reset phones or take them if needed, but make sure that there are not these types of pictures/videos on your children's phones. **After November 30, 2018, if there is Child Sexually Abusive Material found on any phones, there will be ZERO tolerance and we will be charging criminally.**

I am hopeful that if we work together, we can protect our children and our community.



Mary A. Beebe

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