



West High School

179 South Powell Ave.

Columbus, Oh 43204

Phone: 614.365.5956

Fax: 614.365.6970

www.columbus.k12.oh.us

Mission: Each student is highly educated, prepared for leadership and service, and empowered for success as a citizen in a global community.

May 1, 2017

Dear Parents;

Building administrators were recently provided information on a new Netflix movie series entitled "13 Reasons Why". This film addresses the issue of suicide and centers on a student who completed suicide and then leaves 13 different videos to those who she felt contributed to her decision. There has been some caution among the mental health community on the messaging of the film that may create vulnerability for students if not provided the opportunity to process. We encourage you to have a discussion with your student if they have watched the film as well as a general conversation on what may be their current life stressors and healthy ways to handle these stressors.

We have provided hyperlinks for additional information and have enclosed a talking points sheet to assist with conversation regarding the film series. If during conversation with your student you have concern with how they are coping with life, please contact our building school counselor or school social worker to assist you.

<https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources/school-safety-and-crisis/preventing-youth-suicide/13-reasons-why-netflix-series-considerations-for-educators>

<http://700childrens.nationwidechildrens.org/13-reasons-parents-concerned-netflix-series/>

Sincerely,

Lucas Cech
Principal