

December 9, 2021

Dear Lewis Center Families,

Schools across the nation are experiencing an influx of cyberbullying, inappropriate or defamatory social media accounts/posts, and threats of violence. While some students fail to see the harm in engaging in these types of behaviors, we want to assure you that the Lewis Center does not take this lightly. *We have not received threats of violence against AAE or NSLA.* However, like other schools, we have seen increased behaviors that we previously only experienced on rare occasions. We have many resources in place that we want to make sure you are aware of, we also want to share some additional supports we will be implementing in the coming months.

Resources that we currently offer are:

LCER Counseling Services: We have posted a counseling request form on www.lewiscenter.org for all students. Once submitted, these requests are directed straight to our highly-qualified school psychologists and counselors. Our Student Services team coordinates a response to ensure students receive the appropriate supports in a timely manner. Parents or students can also reach out to Marcelo Congo, LCER Director of Student Services, at gcongo@lcer.org.

GoGuardian: The Lewis Center has deployed this online application that allows for maximum filtering, monitoring, and management of online content that students have access to. It also identifies students at risk of suicide or possible harm to others through threats, violence, and bullying.

CareSolace: The Lewis Center has partnered with CareSolace, an online resource with a live 24/7 concierge meant to assist individuals in finding local mental health-related programs and counseling services. The link to access CareSolace services is on the homepage of each school's website (www.aae.lewiscenter.org or www.nsla.lewiscenter.org).

Social Emotional Learning and Health Curricula: Both schools have implemented grade-level curriculum to cover topics such as social emotional learning, health and wellness, suicide prevention, mindfulness, social skills, and goal setting in age-appropriate ways.

Upcoming resources and supports:

StopIt: We will be widely launching this anonymous online reporting tool designed to deter and mitigate bullying, cyber abuse, and other inappropriate behaviors, consisting of an app and a back-end incident management system for school administrators.

“Social Media and Wellness” Parent Workshops: The San Bernardino Sheriff's Department will be hosting the following parent workshop:

This is the one presentation adults need to see most. There are thousands of ways young people today can get into trouble, and they seem to be taking advantage of all of them. Plus, those methods of self-endangerment seem to change daily. In this 120-minute-long PowerPoint slideshow, you will gain a bird's eye view of the world of juvenile mischief and mayhem in the 21st century: everything from social media misdoings to the latest fads in self-intoxication, to how adolescents are taking the world's oldest profession onto school campuses, to how gangs and gang tactics are morphing before our very eyes. Unless you are on the front lines of law enforcement, you will be shocked and surprised by what the little ones are up to – often right under the noses of their parents and teachers.

Positive Prevention Plus Parent Workshops: The publisher of our adopted Comprehensive Sexual Health Curriculum has agreed to offer parent workshops to discuss the topics covered in 7th and 9th grades, and guidelines for parents for talking with teens about sexuality, peer & media pressure, bullying, and other key topics.

Cyber Safety and Anti-Bullying Assemblies: We are currently scheduling grade-level assemblies at both schools to discuss the dangers of cyberbullying, sexting, school safety, and other critical topics.

Violent Intruder Staff Training: We are working with San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department to schedule violent intruder training on both campuses. These interactive, hands-on training with our local law enforcement will build upon the previous ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training that our staff has received.

We will share more information via Infinite Campus about the upcoming resources and supports as they become available. We are committed to promoting the health and safety of all students. We will continue to actively monitor and educate students regarding safe and appropriate interactions. We also ask that you reinforce this vital message by speaking with your children, monitoring their online interactions at home, and encouraging them to report anything they see that may be of concern.

Thank you for your continued partnership,

Lisa Lamb

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