

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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April 10, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I want to thank the many parents who attended our second-semester Open House last week. It was wonderful to have you in our school, and we hope that you always feel welcome.

As we come to the end of the third quarter and our April break, we want to share some important events that are on the horizon:

- June 7, 2018 - Celebration of Learning, 6:00-8:00 pm
- June 11-12, 2018 - Senior finals
- June 13, 2018 - Awards and Scholarship Night, starting at 6:30 pm
- June 16, 2018 - ConVal High School graduation, starting at 10:00 am
- June 20-21, 2018 - Finals for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors
- June 22, 2018 - Last day of school for all students

I also want to put in a quick request to those who have not yet had an opportunity to complete the survey on the district's family engagement practices. Please complete this 9-item survey to provide us with your feedback. Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ConValFamily>.

An Advisory about the AfterSchool App

After waning in popularity last year, the AfterSchool app is making some inroads again into ConVal's student culture. We have received reports from concerned parents that their students are the subject of some AfterSchool conversations. We have previously issued a warning about the AfterSchool app, in December 2016, and would like to renew our advisory.

A quick explanation: AfterSchool is a smartphone-based application that portrays itself as a platform for the exchange of anonymous, positive comments among its users. In reality, the anonymous comments are frequently inappropriate and, in some cases, disturbing.

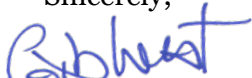
The best way to guard against unwanted inclusion in these conversations is to check your student's smartphone for the app. The app's icon is a tiger with yellow sunglasses. There is also a connection to Facebook. In order to sign on to AfterSchool, students have to use their Facebook account. Please ask them to disable the app on Facebook so that no data can be shared with AfterSchool anymore.

You and your student should know that a portion of the comments has the hallmarks of being created by Internet bots that run automated tasks and scripts. The same verbiage appears over and over again,

just with different names, and photos appear randomly pulled from connected Facebook accounts. The use of emojis also seems to be automated in many cases.

Finally, please understand that the AfterSchool app works with “click bait” tactics whose main purpose is to attract attention and encourage visitors to click and respond. The less your student responds, the fewer the chances are that the conversations about him or her will continue. Nevertheless, we strongly encourage you to consider asking your student to delete the AfterSchool app altogether.

Sincerely,



Gib West