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## Carver Public Schools

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Dear Families, Parents, and Guardians,

We want to share a concern about a much-debated Netflix show entitled "13 Reasons Why." The first season was released last spring and season two will be released tomorrow, May 18, 2018. Radio spots, online trailers, and a number of marketing strategies have been used by Netflix to promote upcoming release and its controversial content.

The first season of the show contained mature themes and traumatic events that would be hard for young people to sort through, such as: the glamorization of suicide, rape, bullying, car accidents, violence, and substance abuse. The second season is rumored to include these similar themes as well as the possibility of a school shooting, sexual violence, and more. We believe that the best opportunity to support students comes from partnering with families. Because the scenes depict complex issues, we want to pass along parenting resources that families may access. Here are some important sites/information:

- Common Sense Media: provides resources for parents and educators related to the show: <https://www.commonsense.org/education/blog/what-teachers-need-to-know-about-13-reasons-why>
- SAVE.ORG (Suicide Awareness Voices of Education) has pulled together top mental health and suicide prevention organizations and created a new site that will open tomorrow with a toolkit for parents and educators: <https://www.13reasonswhytoolkit.org/>.
- Netflix, in response to the outcries and criticism of season one is rumored to provide an "aftershow" to explain to viewers different ways for seek help.
- Netflix created [13ReasonsWhy.Info](https://www.netflix.com/13reasonswhy/info) is set up with warning videos and viewing guides to help people start tough conversations regarding suicide, self-harm, violence, and other sensitive topics.
- Netflix is providing a parental control feature where you can add a PIN that limits accessibility to the show. Information on how to set this up is found here: <https://help.netflix.com/en/node/24805>
- Carver Public Schools Website with Technology Resources for Parents: <https://carver.org/carver-home/parentsandfamilies/digital-literacy-and-technology-safety-resources-for-parents-and-families/>

As always, our school counselors are available to talk with families, parents, and students about these important issues. If you have immediate concerns about the safety and well-being of your child, contact emergency services (911) or the Good Samaritans help line (877) 870-4673 for assistance.

Sincerely,

Scott E Knief  
Superintendent of Schools

[www.carver.org](http://www.carver.org)

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