



Cloonan Middle School

11 West North Street / Stamford, CT 06902

(203) 977-4544 / FAX (203) 977- 4867

*Principal David Rudolph
Assistant Principal Laureen Mody
Assistant Principal David Tate*

March 6, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We live in a time of advanced technology and easy access to the internet through use of digital cameras, mobile phones, computers and other devices. These tools provide some wonderful avenues for learning, connecting and creativity. However, like most other tools, they can be used inappropriately. It came to our attention yesterday that a few students at Cloonan have used these devices irresponsibly. In the past we have also dealt with situations involving cyber-bullying, text messaging, and misuse of social-networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook. In each case, those individuals have been disciplined accordingly.

We want to use every experience as a learning opportunity and have met this afternoon with the entire student body to discuss the personal responsibilities that come with access to technology. This includes public or private display of any recorded or written materials. Such behavior is a violation of the Board of Education's policy on student behavior. The policy forbids *"Unauthorized possession and/or use of paging devices, beepers, cellular telephones, walkie talkies or other similar electronic communication devices without the written permission of the principal or his/her designee."*

We ask you to help us in this endeavor by closely monitoring and discussing responsible use of all technologies with our children. As always we appreciate your support and involvement in the challenging task of raising citizens of the 21st century.

Sincerely,

David Rudolph

Laureen Mody

David Tate