## Dear KCAA community,

It is our priority to keep you informed of incidents related to student safety. Today, we were made aware of inappropriate content being circulated on social media by some of our students. Some of this content is being used by other students in cyberbullying and other disruptive social behaviors. While we cannot share details due to student privacy, please know that appropriate disciplinary actions are being taken to address this.

In accordance with the Kunsmiller student handbook, students could receive a behavior referral due to the inappropriate use of social media. We take allegations of harassment, social media misuse, and cyberbullying very seriously. We will follow the district policies to investigate allegations of discrimination and harassment (board policies <u>JB</u> and <u>JB-R-1</u>), and respond according to our district discipline policies (board policies <u>JK</u> and <u>JK-R</u>) should we learn about hurtful language or actions.

I also want to reiterate the following important messages to our school community:

- Social media should be used in a safe, respectful and responsible manner.
- The creation and distribution of obscene content involving minors is prohibited by federal, state and local laws.
- Bigotry, bullying and inappropriate behavior are not tolerated at Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy.
- Our school, community, city, state and world are full of caring, compassionate and supportive people who are committed to equity and social justice for all people.
- Education is the most valuable and powerful asset for creating a better future.

Please take this opportunity to talk with your child about the importance of being responsible digital citizens. Remind them of the impact their words and photos can have on their peers when shared on social media. In addition to screenshots being taken, there are a number of other ways images and posts are preserved. If inappropriate images are saved or shared with others, this could result in unintended consequences for the sharing student, family, and school.

We encourage all parents to limit or monitor your child's social media usage to curb the creation or distribution of inappropriate content. We are also providing several informational sessions, parent tools, and student guidance regarding social media misuse in the upcoming future. We will be sharing more information on these events as we partner and organize within school leadership and district administration. Please feel free to reach out to me should you have any questions about our school's policies regarding inclusivity.

Finally, in order for us to respond to concerns about discriminatory or harassing behavior, we must know about it. To report concerns, please reach out to me; text or call <u>Safe2Tell.org</u> (can be anonymous); or contact the DPS family helpline at 720-423-3054.

Sincerely,

Elina Martinez Medina, MA Dean of Culture