

February 26,2015

Dear Grade 6-8 Parents/Guardians:

This letter is being shared to address a very serious concern. This year, we have addressed the issue of students "cutting" themselves. "Cutting" is a term applied to self-mutilation by individuals, generally females, but does not exclude males and we have had both genders cutting themselves this year. There are numerous reasons students will "cut" themselves and they often use a variety of instruments to do so. The most common instrument used is a razor blade; however, students will often use any sharp object that they have access to, such as scissors, broken CDs, other knives, tacks and more.

We need not tell you how dangerous this practice is and that it is an indicator, to mental health caregivers, of serious concerns.

We ask you to take some time to review the following web pages

<http://kidshealth.org/parent/emotions/behavior/cutting.html> and, as appropriate, address this matter with your children.

As always, our support staff is ready and available to assist you and your child should the need arise. If we can support you in any way do not hesitate to contact EJ Middle School at 259-0154.