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BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT

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COMMUNITY BULLETIN

SOCIAL MEDIA AND OUR CHILDREN TIPS FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

DATE: August 18, 2015

Social media is a wonderful way to share events and memories with family and friends. Unfortunately, social media is also used by predators. Attempts to limit access to posts can be, and are in fact frequently compromised.

With school starting, this is a good time to keep in mind that experts agree the best practice, specifically with children, is to limit the amount of identifying information available in social media. This applies both to parents and students who post to sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The first days of school are often chronicled through pictures, some of which may be of a student displaying a new school ID card and/or class schedule.

Please keep in mind that a photo of a student displaying a school ID card will include your child's name, school, his/her school ID number and a current photo!

If the class schedule is added to the post, it will tell the story of what your student looks like, their name and exactly where they will be during any given day!

As a parent, please use caution when posting information about your children and talk to them about what is permissible to post. We must all work together in our continuing efforts to protect our students!

Here are some websites with additional information on social media safety.

NATIONAL PTA

<http://www.pta.org/programs/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3083>

NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU

<http://www.networkworld.com/article/2346606/microsoft-subnet/12-tips-for-safe-social-networking.html>

SAFETY ON-LINE

<https://www.staysafeonline.org/stay-safe-online/protect-your-personal-information/social-networks>

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT MAY BE DIRECTED TO
SERGEANT CLAUDIO LOSACCO, @ 818-238-3240 OR CLOSACCO@BURBANKCA.GOV

24-HOUR: 818-238-3000

PRESS INFORMATION OFFICE: 818-238-3240

DETECTIVE BUREAU: 818-238-3210

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BURBANKPD.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/BURBANKPD

LACRIMESTOPPERS.ORG

CRIME STOPPERS: 800-222-TIPS (8477)

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