

May 17, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Some of you may be aware that Netflix is set to release Season 2 of their **13 Reasons Why** production on Friday May 18th. As a District School Counseling Team we wanted to alert families to the release of this series.

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention: “**13 Reasons Why** the first season, which was extremely popular with teens and young adults, followed the story of a high school girl’s (Hannah) suicide, including scenes involving bullying, sexual assault and suicide portrayal. In season two, we have learned that the show will focus more on themes of recovery as the school community copes with the aftermath of a suicide loss, suicide attempt and sexual assault.”

Although the second season is planning on incorporating more helpful resources for teens and families, we would like to ensure that families are aware of the subject matter of this series. The following resources are tools that we hope will assist you in talking with your child about this series:

- [Common Sense Media review](#)
  - Common Sense Media gives an accurate breakdown of what *exactly* may be included in the series and leaving families the opportunity to decide if this is something they feel their children could or should be viewing.
- [5 Conversations to have with your teen after watching 13 Reasons Why](#)
  - These conversations include bullying/cyberbullying, sexual assault, whether or not suicide is glorified by this series, ways to talk about suicide and the choices the characters make in this series.
- [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - 13 Reasons Why Discussion Guide](#)
  - Lots of useful links here, everything from discussion guides themselves, to useful conversation starters for talking about these difficult subjects with your students.

If you have further questions or concerns about this series or your child’s mental health please do not hesitate to reach out to one of the School Counselors at their school.

Respectfully,

KSD School Counseling Team:

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