

How to Effectively Manage Cyberbullying Incidents with Collaboration

Presenters: Matt Soeth, Co-Founder of #ICANHELP and Jeff Collins, VP of After School

Session Description: Matt and Jeff will share tips and tricks needed to help students avoid and overcome instances of cyberbullying, and understand how to contact and work with social media companies. As a participant, you will be challenged to navigate hypothetical scenarios that are based on real-world cases where there often is no “right” answer.

Tips for Managing Cyberbullying Incidents

- Learn the facts, don't rush to judgement. Sometimes these incidents start offline.
- Put yourself in the shoes of the students involved in the situation.
- Understand how social media networks used in your school or district work, from their moderation processes to reporting abuse.
- Contact the social media company if information from them will help resolve the situation.
- Digital self-harm is on the rise. Approach instances of cyberbullying carefully and examine the possibility of digital self-harm (self-bullying).
- Carefully consider the impact of communications alerting parents of an incident or app. In many instances, this will increase use of the app at your school.
- Always refer to District Policy when investigating and disciplining students.
- Every state has an Electronic Privacy Law. Learn what that law is in your state to guide you on how to approach and search student devices.
- Take Screen Shots. They can be used as evidence later even if the posts are deleted.
- Encourage students who see the post online to report. This will help remove negative content.
- If students do feel the need to respond, support them in making positive comments in support of the victim, do not respond with aggressive language to the bully.

Resources

[#ICANHELP](#): ICanHelpDeleteNegativity.org

[After School School Safety Center](#): AfterSchoolApp.com/Safety

[Social Media Helpline](#): Visit at socialmediahelpline.com

[Parent's Guide to After School](#): Connectsafely.org/afterschool/