



State of New Jersey
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
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JON S. CORZINE
Governor

ANNE MILGRAM
Attorney General

August 20, 2007

The Honorable Jon S. Corzine
Governor
Office of the Governor
P. O. Box 001
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Corzine:

The issue of Internet safety is of vital importance for the children of New Jersey and their families. Nationally, over 32 percent of all teenagers who use the Internet say they have been a victim of online bullying and 30 percent have considered meeting someone with whom they have communicated only online (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children). With that in mind, our departments have been working together to determine how to best utilize our resources to implement an educational training program that will reach as many teachers, students, parents, and school administrators as possible to strengthen Internet safety training for teachers and administrators in New Jersey.

As you note in your August 1, 2007 letter to our departments, the State Police have developed a "train-the-trainer program" for local and county law enforcement officers. Using this program as a model, the State Police's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and Cyber-Crimes Unit have developed a similar program for teachers and administrators.

The Internet Safety Train-the-Trainer program will enable participating educators to give effective Internet safety presentations to students and parents, as well as to community groups. The comprehensive one day training features presenters who will provide a base level of understanding about how the Internet works, the behavioral traits of child sexual predators, and the methods they use to lure potential victims. Also, they will discuss cyber-bullying and areas on the Internet such as social networking sites, gaming sites, and chat rooms that are particularly dangerous. During the training, the presenters will suggest talking points, provide instruction on the major themes of the various Power Point slides and guide the participants through each video on the DVD.



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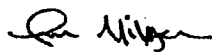
At the conclusion of the training, participants will receive professional development credits. Additionally, the educators attending will receive a training manual and a DVD that contains "pre-developed" Power Point presentations that they will be asked to present locally. The DVD contains three Internet safety presentations produced by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. These three presentations are aimed at young children, teens, and parents, respectively. The DVD also contains two Internet safety presentations for teens and parents produced by the New Jersey State Police, and which have been presented to approximately 50,000 New Jersey residents in the past year. Finally, the DVD contains additional videos and public safety announcements to enhance presentations and reinforce the presented ideas throughout the school.

On August 21, 2007 a pilot program will be conducted at the Salem County Community College during an all-day training session for approximately 40 educators. We expect each school district in Salem County to be represented. Additionally, Department of Education school security planners will participate in the program to increase their capacity to provide direct technical assistance to school staff.

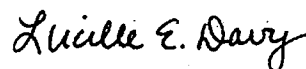
Upon completion of this program, staff from our departments will review and revise the training, as needed, to prepare for the statewide rollout. Overall, our goal is to train approximately 1,000 New Jersey educators by conducting five regional trainings starting in October 2007. The first regional training session will occur at the Hamilton Technology Center Complex. In addition to the regional trainings, we hope to present the program at the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) and the New Jersey Parent Teacher Association (NJPTA) conferences in November 2007.

The Internet is a great tool for learning and expanding one's horizons. However, dangers lurk there, and we are responsible for seeing to it that children and their parents understand the need to exercise caution on line. We believe our program to train school teachers and administrators on how best to teach their students to navigate the Internet safely will significantly reduce the threat of our children falling victim to predators. We are optimistic that this initiative will prepare our children to use the Internet cautiously and safely and help educators and parents provide children with the guidance and assurance they need to do so confidently.

Sincerely,



Anne Milgram
Attorney General



Lucille E. Davy
Commissioner