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January 11, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This is to inform you that it has come to the attention of law enforcement that a video involving an illegal act of bestiality is being shared amongst students. The video appears to have been widely distributed within our county, as well as throughout other jurisdictions.

If you are aware that your child has seen the video, or is aware of it, I encourage you to have a conversation with your child about the completely inappropriate nature of the video as well as the hazards of downloading and distributing such a video. They should be told to not view the video and not to share it with anyone. This is an opportunity to remind your children that the sharing of any inappropriate video could have both criminal and civil consequences. If a person depicted in a sexually explicit video is under the age of 18, sharing it could qualify as distribution of child pornography in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:24-4b(5), which is a second degree crime under our law and carries a term of imprisonment of 5-10 years. Should your child receive inappropriate material, encourage them to come to you with it and if you deem the material to be legally questionable, you should contact your local police department. If your child received the video discussed above, they should immediately delete it.

I also want to assure you that, despite rumors to the contrary, there is no credible evidence that the video involves a juvenile or a student from within our county. You should share this information with your child to quell any fears your child may have with regard to that concern, and also to quash any such rumors on that point.

As always, the safety of our children must be our number one priority. This unfortunate incident is an opportunity for you to speak frankly with your children about the hazards of social media. It is also an avenue to open the lines of communication with them to discuss internet safety.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. P. Kearns, III", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Prosecutor Anthony P. Kearns, III