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September 26, 2014

Re: Access to Student Social Networking Passwords and Websites for Violations of School Rules or Procedures

Dear Parents/Guardians:

At the September 22, 2014 Regular Board Meeting, the School Board passed Policy 7:140 Students – Search and Seizure. We are required to notify students and their parents/guardians of the following information.

If your child has an account on a *social networking website*, e.g., Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, ask.fm, etc., please be aware that **State law requires** school authorities to notify you that your child may be asked to provide his or her password for these accounts to school officials in certain circumstances. *Social networking website* means an Internet-based service that allows students to: (1) construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system created by the service; (2) create a list of other users with whom they share a connection within the system; and (3) view and navigate their list of connections and those made by others within the system.

School authorities **may** require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to his/her account or profile on a social networking website if school authorities have **reasonable cause** to believe that a student's account on a social networking website contains evidence that a student has violated a school disciplinary rule or procedure.

Please remind your children that any digital data created on websites can become permanent. Once data is released into cyberspace, the original author loses control of how the information is used. Millburn starts teaching cyber safety at the Elementary level, and your support and reinforcement of these concepts are important.

Please contact the school if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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