

BUNKER HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

372 PITMAN DOWNER ROAD SEWELL, NJ 08080

856.881.7007 Fax 856.881.5414

"Bulldog...It's more than our mascot; it's our character"

Michael J. D'Ostilio Principal Gregory Muscelli, Ed.D. Assistant Principal

September 16, 2021

Dear Bulldog Families:

Over the last week we have been inundated with an excessive amount of vandalism in the school restrooms. Despite our best efforts for having students sign into the restrooms and inspecting the restrooms before and after uses, we are finding that some students are still engaging in mischievous behavior. This stems from a recent Tik Tok craze called "Devious Licks" which has gained traction across the country. The gist of this trend encourages kids/Tik Tok users to do an act of vandalism or theft to school property then post it on social media. This obviously has become highly disruptive for our building, our staff, and especially our students who we have to question as a result of an investigation. This has started to manifest itself in some students taking hand sanitizers and wipes from the teachers' desks and classrooms as well.

Students at first think this is funny, but what is happening is that students are obviously getting disciplined per the Code of Conduct for theft/vandalism and required to pay for the damage done or replacement of items. Personally, I think this is an impulsive act the students are doing and not really paying attention to the ramifications. The concern is these problems start small and then grow in order to get a better reaction. But this will escalate discipline as well. These acts do defy our Code of Conduct and are not in line with the values we hold at Bunker Hill. Therefore, students could get in a lot of trouble for this trend which could include suspensions, expulsions, and even involvement with law enforcement. We have already had to apply the Code of Conduct to several students for this behavior.

We ask for your cooperation to talk to your children about the ramifications of these actions and also ask for student cooperation as well. We try to make Bunker Hill a great school, and these actions of a small few put a stain on the culture so many of our dedicated students have work to build over the years.

If you would like more information as to what this trend is and what we are dealing with at school, please consult this Newsweek article.

https://www.newsweek.com/tiktok-devious-licks-trend-stolen-items-school-1628463

Thank you, as always, for your support,

Mike D'Ostilio