

Dear Parent or Guardian:

At Oil City Middle School part of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade technology curriculum includes a 5-day instruction session on Internet Safety. It is the school's goal to educate students to safely and responsibly take control of their Internet experience. The following topics are discussed and taught in the classroom:

- **Cyberbullying**—Cyberbullying (on-line bullying) is the use of electronic information and communication devices such as e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, mobile phones, pagers and defamatory websites to bully or otherwise harass an individual or group through personal attacks or other means. Oil City School District's goal is to raise students' awareness of what cyberbullying is and why it is so harmful and to equip students with the skills and resources to treat each other respectfully when using cyber techniques.
- **Personal Safety**—Understand how to recognize dangers and the danger signs in online communications; how to employ techniques to avoid and/or respond assertively to a variety of dangerous situations.
- **Predator Identification**—Understand the techniques used by Cyber predators to contact, communicate, entice and lure, entrap and exploit victims; how predators use chat rooms and students' screen names to gather information; how to recognize inappropriate situations and avoid becoming the victim of a predator.

It is the school's belief that this curriculum is necessary to protect and empower students and hope that you will offer your support by continuing the discussion of these topics at home.

For further information about Internet Safety visit [www.netsmartz.org](http://www.netsmartz.org).

Sincerely,

Cheryl H. Adams  
Business and Information Technology Chairperson