



10/19/2018

Re: Safe Surfin' Foundation Recommendation

To whom it may concern,

The mission of Pinecrest Academy of Nevada, a K-12 Public Charter School, is to unite the community to prepare students for college and careers. In addition to providing high quality academic opportunities to our students we strive to bring parents, students, and the school together in order to bring awareness and opportunities for discussion on real-life issues and concerns of the whole-child development. With this in mind, it is our goal to always seek community partners who take a real and practical approach to educating the community at large. We seek authentic presentations and dialogue.

In the fall of 2018 we partnered with the Safe Surfin' Foundation to bring digital safety awareness to our community. What drew Pinecrest Academy to the Safe Surfin' Foundation was the real life connection and story which they were willing to share with our parents and students. The night before the student presentations, they hosted a parent night. In this presentation the story was shared from a mother's perspective. There were tears in the audience and so many reported being deeply moved. Then tips and awareness were brought to the community on internet and gaming safety. This time turned into an open dialogue with the community in which parents felt safe to ask questions and the administration of the school was able to play an active role as well. It was truly reflective of a partnership and the parents walked away with first hand information as well as a plethora of brochures and booklets, provided by the foundation, of things to be aware of.

Finally, assemblies were held for the students. Specifically, the middle school and high school students attended the assembly. The students heard an age-appropriate version of the story shared with the parents. They also received information to be aware of like the social media pages they should or should not be on and what settings to be mindful of on their phones. Perhaps the most valuable part to the students was the time dedicated to questions and answers. Not only were they helpful in answering the questions, but this time also provided insight to administration on what their specific students were struggling with. We also provided an anonymous platform for this to occur.

I highly recommend the Safe Surfin' Foundation to any school administration seeking an authentic presentation which takes a real approach to connecting with parents and students. We are thankful for the time dedicated to the Pinecrest Community.

Jessica LeNeave, M.S., M.Ed.
Principal
Pinecrest Academy Cadence