FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Partnership with Local Police Department Results in Identification of the Individual Involved with a Social Media Threat

Newport-Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD), like many school districts has been impacted by the mobile application, Ogle. Ogle allows users to submit photos, make comments and post information without censorship and in total anonymity. Earlier this month two NMUSD schools were made aware of school threats made via the Ogle application. Today, as a result of the strong partnership and collaboration with NMUSD, the Costa Mesa Police Department identified the individual involved with the threat.

The threat, posted on the social media application earlier this month, resulted in proactive safety measures immediately implemented by Costa Mesa High School staff, district personnel and law enforcement. No evidence has been discovered that would suggest there was an imminent threat to the students or staff. The Costa Mesa Police Department’s investigation is ongoing and anyone with additional information is asked to call Detective Nicole Brown at (714) 754-4873.

“We are extremely proud of our staff and local law enforcement placing a high priority on student safety,” said NMUSD Superintendent Dr. Fred Navarro.

NMUSD does not believe that there is a practical use for the Ogle app and that it is largely being used to spread harmful, hurtful and negative messages. The District does not believe that it adds any value nor does it deliver any positive benefits for students.

We urge parents to carefully monitor student’s online presence and use of this app and any other social media. We respectfully ask parents strongly consider removing this app from student’s phone. NMUSD continually reviews district-owned devices to ensure that such applications are not installed.

We commend the dedicated efforts of our staff and the Costa Mesa Police Department and appreciate their commitment to ensuring a safe environment focused on student learning.

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