

May 18, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Many of you may be aware of a controversial drama on Netflix, "13 Reasons Why" (or 13RY). This series details the life of a high school student who faces many struggles and ultimately dies by suicide.

Netflix has announced that Season 2 will be released on Friday, May 18.

Portions of the topics depicted in 13RY are graphic. This has created much discussion about critical issues such as bullying, sexual assault and suicide. The latest season will also introduce gun violence and an in-school assault.

Even if students have not watched 13RY many are talking about the series. It is important that students have help processing the topic of suicide and graphic imagery shown in the series, through healthy, thoughtful conversations with an adult. Parents and adults should be aware that conversations about suicide do not promote suicide; instead, they offer opportunities for help and support.

When discussing this important topic with your student, we encourage parents and adults to please consider using some of the resources listed below:

[National Association of School Psychologists \(NASP\):](#)

[13 Reasons Why: Talking Points JED Foundation](#)

[WMS Bully Policy](#)

National Suicide Hotline 1-800-273-TALK (8255); Text "MN" to 741741

Willmar Public Schools values the health and well-being of all students. If you need support for your student, please contact our school office at, 320-214-6000.

Sincerely,

Mark Miley

Principal, Willmar Middle School