

3907 Rosemead Blvd.
Rosemead, CA 91770
Phone: 626-312-2900
Fax: 626-312-2906



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AMY ENOMOTO-PEREZ, Ed.D., Superintendent

April 21, 2017

Dear Rosemead Community and Friends,

NEW NETFLIX SERIES – CONTAINING SENSITIVE THEMES, “THIRTEEN REASONS WHY”

Our staff, parents and guardians should be aware about a new television series with a sensitive theme that is expected to be popular with teenagers. The series is based on a 2007 bestselling novel with the same Netflix title, "Thirteen Reasons Why."

The topics covered in this book are: adolescent bullying, rejection, heartbreak, sexual assault, abuse, revenge, depression, and desperate but unsuccessful efforts to find help or understanding. These topics are depicted as many of the reasons for the character's suicide at the end of the series. Series like this can be difficult to watch and could trigger feelings of distress in viewers.

In the event your student chooses to view this Netflix series, parents and guardians may wish to discuss some of the issues mentioned above or may need support in discussing such issues. Although Netflix opened all 13 episodes for continuous viewing, metered viewing is advised to allow time to process and discuss themes and feelings that may arise.

I am notifying all staff: at each site administrators, counselors and teachers in the Rosemead School District about this new series. I have recently been informed of this series and as always, I want to keep you informed of the matters that can affect our students.

Our administrators, counselors and teachers are a resource for all students and parents. If parents have questions about how to have conversations with their students, the counseling team in collaboration with our administration is always available for parents and students.

If our parents and guardians would like to read more about this book/series, you can use these two resources:

- Common Sense Media (<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/book-reviews/thirteen-reasons-why>)
- 13 Reasons Why talking points (<https://www.save.org/blog/tips-watching-new-netflix-series-13-reasons/>)

Note: The intention of this message is not to recommend viewing this Netflix series; rather, it is intended to provide you with relevant information to the health and wellbeing of all RSD students and families.

If anyone is struggling with thoughts of suicide...

- Text “START” to 741741
- Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Yours truly,

Dr. Amy Enomoto-Perez
Superintendent
Rosemead School District

Posted: 2/21/17