



# Temecula Middle School

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January 9, 2019

Dear TMS Families,

Re: #ICANHELP assemblies, January 16

At TMS, we want our students to become productive, knowledgeable and safe digital citizens. State learning standards require students to engage in responsible use of technology and have an understanding of ethics and safety issues in using electronic media at home, in school and in society. The TMS ASB and PTSA have organized a program that will support our students in the digital world.

Kim Karr, co-founder of #ICANHELP is set to deliver a powerful presentation on social media to more than 1,200 students at Temecula Middle School on Wednesday, January 16, 2019. #ICANHELP is a non-profit corporation that educates on the proper use of social media, empowers students to deal with conflict, negativity, and harassment online. It will also instruct students and adults on how to maintain a positive digital footprint and be a Digital First Responder in order to navigate around a digital world.

"We don't usually think of it, but just like the way negativity can spread, people can be swayed or encouraged when the majority are doing 'good' online. Students just need to be shown how to respond to the negativity. We need to empower our future generation to take action against all the issues that are arising with technology," says co-founder Kim Karr. "Through #ICANHELP students are learning that kindness is saving lives and it doesn't have to be anything big- a simple smile or a nice post-it note on a locker might be all it takes."

Students are empowered stakeholders and we need their help in this new digital world. Co-founder Kim Karr explains that, "#ICANHELP has worked with over three hundred thousand students to be the digital change they want to see." This student-led approach to solving some of the complicated issues and social problems with tech use--seeing students as part of the solution not the problem. It aims to raise awareness, offer real-world best practices, and celebrate the many examples of students using digital for good.

After the assemblies, our teachers will be following up with discussions in their classrooms. We want TMS to be a school where students use social media in a positive fashion. We are committing time and resources to that end.

To support us at home, I have attached some ideas for conversations that you may want to have on the ride to school or around the dinner table. I have also included a link to a parent video that you can view.

Sincerely,  
Marvin Morton  
Principal-TMS