



Vestal Central School District

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News Release/For Immediate Release

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Vestal Central School District's Project Golden Bear to present free community presentation "Protecting Our Children & Teens in a Digital World"

The Vestal Central School District's Project Golden Bear committee continues its work to maximize the benefits and minimize the costs of Internet technology. This fall, it brings a free presentation "Protecting Our Children & Teens in a Digital World" to the Vestal community on Thursday, October 5, 2023. The event will take place from 7 – 8:30 p.m. in the Vestal High School Auditorium, 201 Main Street, Vestal.

Our two presenters are members of the FBI's Child Exploitation Task Force. They will offer parents and community members information on some of the ways that children and adolescents are targeted online and apps that have been used to victimize children and adults. Tips on how to monitor software for children and /or how to get help if you believe a child or adolescent has been victimized online will also be shared.

Due to the sensitive nature of this presentation, it is meant for parents and adult community members only. Childcare will be available on premises in the Vestal High School staffed by student volunteers and an adult advisor. No RSVP's are necessary to attend.

The focus of Project Golden Bear is to answer the question of how we can mitigate the negative impact of growing up in the digital age on our children's lives with respect to their social and emotional learning, mental health, and engagement in learning. Last March, the District offered a free community screening of the film "Like: Growing Up in the Digital Age," a documentary about the impact of social media on our lives.

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Details for media representatives: We are grateful for your help in promoting this free community presentation. There will be no opportunity for photos or video on the night of the event for the safety of our presenters, who both actively work in law enforcement.

CHALLENGE

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