ABC's of Cyber Bullying for Students Patti Agatston, Ph.D.

www.cyberbullyhelp.com

- A *Avoid* posting or sending mean comments toward others online.
- B Block the senders who repeatedly send nasty comments or messages to you.
- C Clarify the intent of a message that bothers you. Maybe the sender was just joking.
- D Delete mean messages or comments, but be sure to save a copy of the evidence should the cyber bullying continue.
- E *Encourage* your friends to post positive comments and messages online.
- F Forward abusive messages to the internet service provider so that it can warn the abuser.
- G Generate a positive cyber atmosphere by avoiding disrespectful treatment of others.
- H *Help* others who are targeted by posting positive or encouraging messages.
- I Invite a classmate who has been targeted online to participate in an activity with you.
- J Join with others to stamp out cyber bullying by addressing it in student leadership groups.
- K Keep a record or log of cyber bullying incidents to assist you in reporting the incidents.
- L Limit the "friends" on your social networking sites or buddy lists to people you know in the real world.
- M Make a public service announcement or start a campaign in your school to prevent cyber bullying.

- N Name aggressive, mean, online behavior as cyber bullying when you see it. It is not just "playing around."
- 0 *Open* your eyes to bullying incidents everywhere.
- P *Protect* yourself by using the privacy features on social networking sites.
- Q Quickly report cyber bullying that includes threats of violence or self-harm, sexual exploitation, or harassment. Report to a trusted adult or the police.
- R Respect others in the real world and the digital world.
- S Support targets of bullying online and in the real world through words of support and offers of help.
- T *Tell* an adult at home and at school if you or your classmates are being cyber bullied.
- U *Understand* how words can be weapons and choose yours wisely.
- V *Verify* with the sender that it is okay before you forward their message to others.
- W Write an article for the school newspaper about cyber bullying to educate other students about this problem.
- X "X" amine your own behavior online. Treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Y Yelling online is viewed as rude. Avoid typing in all caps.
- Z Zip your lips and your keyboard when it comes to gossip and rumors!