PAJARO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Pajaro Valley Unified School District is to educate and to support learners in reaching their highest potential. We prepare students to pursue successful futures and to make positive contributions to the community and global society.



Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PVUSD COLLABORATES WITH STOPIT TO EMPOWER AND PROTECT STUDENTS

STOPit App empowers students to stand up against bullying

Watsonville, CA, September 16, 2020 – Pajaro Valley Unified School District has enrolled with <u>STOPit</u>, the leading technology platform for schools that deters and controls harmful or inappropriate conduct. STOPit empowers students and families with an easy app to safely and anonymously report



anything of concern to school officials – from cyberbullying to threats of violence or self-harm. STOPit empowers students to stand up for themselves and others while giving our schools the insight we need to keep students safe.

STOPit empowers students with a voice and the ability to get help for themselves or their peers. With STOPit, students or families can submit anonymous reports containing text, photos, or video. Administrators are then able to manage incidents in a backend management system called STOPit Admin. STOPit Admin provides efficient and powerful investigative tools to our staff, including the ability to message with the reporter, which will allow us to address issues instantly.

"As young people continue to engage more with technology every day, we are taking a proactive step to empower our students to become upstanders in our community in the way that they feel most comfortable. We believe our adoption of STOPit is an important step in our continued effort to provide a positive school climate and a safe learning environment for our students," stated Dr. Michelle Rodriguez, Superintendent of Schools.

STOPit does more than just help schools address incidents and mitigate risk. STOPit will also help us go beyond reacting to bullying and inappropriate behavior, and instead start deterring it.

PVUSD's STOPit program is in effect as of Monday, September 14, 2020. Students and families are encouraged to download free app via iTunes or Google Play. A site-specific access code is needed to make a report on the STOPit app and school site administration will communicate with families with this information and additional details on this useful tool.