



GOOSE CREEK

CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

An Important Warning to Parents



Dr. Toby York
Superintendent

Goose Creek CISD is notifying all schools and parents of the re-mergence of a so-called game played by students that involves the process of suffocation to then experience a dangerous stimulation that could prove to be fatal.

Even if you've never heard of it, chances are your child has. Young people have different names for this activity such as the pass-out game, fainting game, blacking out/blackout game, and other variations.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the game — a variation of the well-publicized choking game — is a dangerous activity that children play to obtain a brief high.

A staff member at a Goose Creek CISD campus recently discovered a video online showing local students playing the dangerous fainting game.

Because of the seriousness of this "game," and the district's level of concern, Goose Creek CISD Superintendent Dr. Toby York wants every parent to be aware of this situation so they can monitor students at home.

"The district is highly concerned for the safety of all of our students," Dr. York said.

The district said the so-called game puts teens at extreme risk. In short, the game involves obtaining a high or euphoric state by constricting the flow of oxygen to the brain. This can be "played" alone or in a group, and involves hyperventilation until unconsciousness is achieved and/or the suppression of oxygen flow by chest or neck compression applied by a friend or the use of a ligature.

The students playing this game cut off the oxygen to their brains by holding their breath, giving each other bear hugs or, in this latest case, applying compressions to the chest.

The dangers involved are great and include the risk of seizure, memory loss, broken bones, concussions, brain damage and death.

Furthermore, because this is a two-party game, a student who helps another student pass out by applying chest compressions or any action to cause another person to faint, incur serious injury or worse could be charged with a criminal offense.

Goose Creek CISD advises parents to look out for these warning signs: bloodshot or red eyes, marks on the neck, severe headaches, dizziness, unexplained bruises, increased hostility, unusual need for privacy, ropes or ties in their room, and unexplained presence of cords.

Please talk to your children about this game. Make sure they aren't participating and also make sure they have a safe person to tell if they know others doing this. Their lives are truly at stake.

If you are not familiar with this game take a few minutes to learn more. G.A.S.P. - Games Adolescents Shouldn't Play [website](#) has some valuable information parents cannot afford to ignore.

You can also read more at the following sites:
[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
[Dangerous Behaviors Foundation](#)

The district has begun an awareness effort to let students and staff members know about the potentially deadly activity. District administrators and counselors are monitoring the situation on our campuses and have distributed information on what to look for.

"Please know that our desire is to work together to protect our children from all harm. Please take steps today to stop your children from taking part in this deadly game," said Dr. York

If you need more information or wish to speak to a district administrator, please contact Dr. Patty Bing, Director of Student Services, at 281-420-4861 or via email at patricia.bing@gccisd.net.

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Physical Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
4544 Interstate 10 East
Baytown, Texas 77521
281.420.4800

Mailing Address:
Goose Creek Consolidated
Independent School District
P.O. Box 30
Baytown, Texas 77522
281.420.4800

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