

Intradistrict Communication

DATE: September 1, 2022

TO: All School Administrators

FROM: Michael Anderson, Associate Superintendent
Travis Hamblin, Director of Student Services
McKinley Withers, Health and Wellness

SUBJECT: BARK Content Monitoring

Now that school is back in session, here is a review of our districtwide content monitoring system which runs through a software system called BARK. BARK was awarded a contract extension over the summer and we will continue to screen alerts and send them to schools for review. **NO other content monitoring software should be purchased by schools.** BARK monitors all student accounts across all JSD schools and levels. Here is a summary of the notification protocols and procedures.

- BARK uses an AI to scan student Gmail messages, Google chats, Google documents, and Google slides, regardless of the device that is used. As long as the student is logged in to and using their Jordan District Google account, the content can be monitored.
- Notifications and alerts are categorized as non-severe, severe, and imminent.
- The alerts are monitored primarily by Angie Rasmussen, JSD Student Safety and Wellness Specialist. Some will require additional investigation at that level to determine the context and to weed out false positives.
- Notifications to schools will include administration, counseling, and other mental health teams. This allows for several adults to receive notifications in case they are somewhat time sensitive.
- Notifications will come in an email from Angie unless it is urgent, then a phone call or text message will be communicated.
- Notifications that are not considered emergencies or urgent will not be sent after 3pm on a school day to ensure that intervention is reasonable and timely for school personnel.
- Content alerts are not monitored over the weekend or on days that students don't attend, but emergency alerts will still be sent when immediate intervention is needed.
- We will continue to receive after hours imminent alerts and will continue to work with administrators when immediate intervention is required.

Should you have any questions please reach out to [Angie Rasmussen](mailto:Angie.Rasmussen@jordandistrict.org) at angie.rasmussen@jordandistrict.org