

Dear Parents,

Last year, a Netflix television series, “13 Reasons Why,” gained a large following by teens and pre-teens. The show portrays a young woman who is experiencing turmoil and who dies by suicide at the end of the series. Although school-aged children are not the intended audience for this show, it has come to our attention that many students view the show either with or without supervision. It is our intention to highlight that this show may have some misleading messages for children and youth who have not had an opportunity to have a conversation with an adult about this topic.

Season 2 of “13 Reasons Why” is debuting on Netflix today.

Atlanta Public Schools provides training to school staff each year on suicide awareness. If a student is ever in crisis at school, steps are taken to safeguard their well-being. This includes making an assessment, referring to the proper authorities, and the implementation of a safety plan. We are committed to helping students and are available to provide support when needed.

Suicide prevention involves all of us, and we would not want some of the “reasons why” from this show to ring true for our students.

The Georgia Department of Education has shared the following resources that can be used by parents to talk with their children about the content in the show and about how they can seek help if they need it. We care about our students and are deeply committed to suicide prevention. Please reference the links below and use them to talk with your students about this topic. Counselors and social workers may also assist with links to professionals who may help.

- [Why We Need to Talk About “13 Reasons Why”](#)
- [Georgia HOPE 13 Reasons Why NOT](#)
- [As “13 Reasons Why” Returns, Schools Try to Help Students Who Are Thinking Of Suicide](#)

If you are concerned about your student or believe your student needs immediate help, please reach out to

Georgia Crisis & Access Line, 1-800-715-4225
and/or the
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Phone Number: 1-800-273-8255