

Good evening, this is Ms. Cavanaugh, principal of Samoset middle school calling with a message for parents.

There has recently been an outbreak of boys punching each other in the groin area resulting in injury serious enough for the affected student to be sent home and then to the doctor. There have also been a number of incidents of flagging, where one student will pull another's pants down.

The grade involved seems to be primarily 8th grade, however, there have also been 7th graders involved.

We will be meeting with students to remind them that they are to keep their hands to themselves or face the consequences of detention or suspension. We have already met with the 8th grade and will be meeting with 7th grade tomorrow and 6th grade through classes.

At this time, because the groin hitting evolved from 'high fiving" that became out of control, we ask that you remind your children to keep their hands to themselves. Due to the seriousness of the incident, we can not allow hitting, smacking, fist pounding, hugging, kissing or other displays of affection that involve body contact.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we continue to strive to provide your child with a safe learning environment.