

Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I trust this message finds you well. I am reaching out to inform you about a growing trend among students – the use of an application called **Saturn** – **Time Together**. While it is marketed as a student scheduling tool, it also operates significantly as a school-specific social media platform.

We understand the appeal of tools that aid in helping students stay organized, but after careful review, we have identified several concerns surrounding the use and potential misuse of the Saturn app.

Key Concerns:

- 1. Privacy and Security Risks: With minimal verification (just a phone number), users can access a broad spectrum of information, including posts from students, events, and even post messages themselves. The ease of this access poses significant privacy concerns.
- 2. Public Access to Sensitive Information: The app displays student names, grades, and linked social media accounts like Snapchat for public viewing. Such information, when accessible to a vast audience, can be exploited with possible malicious intent.
- 3. **Safety Implications**: The app's design allows for detailed school schedules to be input, potentially revealing a student's whereabouts during the school day to ill-intentioned individuals. In light of these concerns, we strongly advise the following:
- 1. Refrain from Using Saturn: If your child has not yet used Saturn, we strongly recommend they do not start now.
- 2. Review Existing Account Settings: If your child already has an account, please ensure that their profile is private, and they are not sharing their schedule or other personal details with unfamiliar individuals.
- 3. **Personal Verification**: Please speak to your child about the importance of not accepting friend requests or any other form of contact from unknown individuals, even if they claim to be from our school or community.

At Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School, the safety and well-being of our students is our highest priority. We understand the allure of modern tools and platforms, but it's essential to remain vigilant about potential risks.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in this matter. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have questions, concerns, or need further information.

Warm regards,

Vicky LaPorte,

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Assistant Director/Intern Principal Atlantic Technical College and Technical High School