



PRESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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PPMS Parents and Guardians

Re: Tide Pod Challenge

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Most likely, many of you are aware of one of the latest YouTube inspired dares, the Tide pod challenge. This challenge has already made its way into PPMS; laundry pods have been confiscated. Please take a moment of your time to read the following information about this dangerous trend spreading across social media.

The Tide pod challenge started as a joke with videos of kids biting into laundry pods and then spewing the contents. However, the American Association of Poison Control Centers has reported 37 cases of poisoning from laundry detergent pods so far in 2018; at least half of these cases were intentional. On January 17th, *The Washington Post* reported children who have been exposed evidence vomiting, respiratory distress, and loss of consciousness. Biting into these packets can result in aspirating the liquid by inhaling it into one's lungs or by becoming sick from ingesting it. Other reported conditions include changes in blood pressure and heart rate as well as seizures.

If you believe your child has been exposed to a laundry detergent pod, call the National Poison Hotline at 1-800-222-1222 or text POISON to 797979.

Obviously, laundry pods were developed for cleaning laundry. I encourage you to have a conversation with your child about the serious consequences of engaging in this challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivy K. Davis-Tomczuk".

Ivy K. Davis-Tomczuk
Principal