With any school incident, students will most likely be the first ones to see anything negative happening online as that is where they are much of the time. You might think of them as your DIGITAL FIRST RESPONDERS. For any instances when something negative happens, train your students to respond appropriately. Here’s how:

1. **Make sure your students know how to report.** If they don’t, challenge them to figure out how – and make a practice of reporting any mean or harassing content they see in apps they use. *The more people who report a post that violates a social network’s terms of service the faster it will come down.*

2. **Use the hashtag, #ICANHELP, as well as any other hashtag your school may use on a social media app or site, when responding to mean post or harassment.** Using the # is a lot like the Bat Signal. It sends a message that help is needed and on the way. It does help if students know what the hashtag means, so make sure you let them know about #ICANHELP before asking them to utilize our help.

3. **Encourage students to comment positively** – they can choose to be an upstander, not just a bystander, right where the negativity is happening. For example, a kind comment about the target, a civil reply about taking a post down or even a private message (when the student knows the source) about why something shouldn’t be online can help a lot. If this is an incident of cyberbullying, a positive comment or text to the student being targeted goes a long way in helping that person get past the incident.

4. **Empower students to DM and text each other** to join in reporting a post.

5. **Create a group or club on campus** that supports positive First Responses when incidents happen (on or off campus). Members could write an emergency response plan for negativity in social media. These are kids who will see what is happening online, know how to respond, know how to get others to respond appropriately and enlist the help of #ICANHELP and other adults who want to help.

6. **Consider signing up your school for iCanHelpline.org** social media help for schools. Student First Responders and school staff make a great team for growing safe, positive school culture, and iCanHelpline can support that teamwork and help get cyberbullying deleted.
#ICANHELP EDUCATES AND EMPOWERS STUDENTS TO USE SOCIAL MEDIA POSITIVELY.

COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO SOCIAL MEDIA AND HANDLING CYBER ISSUES

- 39% of teens received some sort of harassment last year

#ICANHELP

WWW.ICANHELPDELETENEGATIVITY.ORG
CHALLENGES

- 92% of teens are online daily
- 39% of teens received some sort of online harassment last year
- 40% of teens turn to friends for help with problems online

WITH TRAINING

- 100% of students will take action against negativity
- 82.7% of students will be more thoughtful of what they post
- 55.9% will check their accounts to make sure it's positive

Pew Research

www.icanhelpdeletenegativity.org