

**Runnemede Public Schools**

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**Steve Pili**  
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Dear Parents / Guardians:

We were recently made aware of a concerning TikTok trend that has begun circulating in New Jersey and parts of New England, and we are reaching out to you in hopes of getting ahead of this before it affects our school community.

The trend involves students inserting objects such as paper clips, push pins, foil, or the graphite from mechanical pencils into the charging or USB ports of their school-issued Chromebooks. This reckless behavior can result in sparks, smoke, and electrical shorts that damage the device. Alarming reports from Connecticut indicate that one such incident caused a Chromebook to catch fire.

Beyond the serious safety risks to our students, it is important to understand that these willful and deliberate acts are a clear violation of our Chromebook Agreement. As outlined in these expectations, such acts of vandalism may result in the full replacement of the device at a cost of \$400, and students and families may be held financially responsible for any repairs due to intentional damage.

We kindly ask all parents and guardians to speak with their children about the dangers and consequences of engaging in this type of behavior. In addition to posing a significant safety hazard, such actions may be treated as acts of vandalism and, in extreme cases, could rise to the level of arson.

Thank you,

Steve Pili