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District warns parents of dangerous game

Viera – Brevard Public Schools is notifying all schools and parents of the existence of a choking game played by primarily elementary and middle school students which involves the process of choking or suffocation to then experience a dangerous stimulation which could prove to be fatal.

The game, known as pass out, black out, or knock out, as well as a variety of other names, requires the restriction of oxygen for a period of time to the point of almost passing out and then releasing it for the high that is achieved when blood and oxygen are restored.

"The Office Student Services will be working to assist schools to make them aware of the dangers students face when they become involved in these risky behaviors, both during school hours and after school hours," stated Betty Dunn, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services.

The District cautions all schools and parents to be aware of this dangerous practice. Signs include marks around the neck, bloodshot eyes, and frequent headaches. Parents should discuss the consequences of this game with their children.