15 Minutes of YouTube Fame by Ian McWethy

(DILLON, as high school student, has accidentally become an internet sensation for making a slightly inappropriate and silly video. The Principal’s assistant, PEMBELTON, approaches Dillon.)

PEMBELTON: Dillon Spree, please make your way to the Principal’s office. Immediately.

Mr. Dillon Spree.

DILLON: I’ve never gone to the principal’s office. I’m a straight-A geek. I’m on the chess club.

I— I—

PEMBELTON: Mr. Spree, we really need you in the Principal’s office! Now!

(Principal Smock is waiting for Dillon. Dillon walks in. Pembelton leaves.)

DILLON: Uh, you wanted to see me Principal—

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Yes, yes, yes. Sit down, Dillon.

(Dillon sits down.)

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Dillon, a couple of things. I like a good gag video as much as the next person, but this is still a public school. And you can’t use that language. You just can’t.

DILLON: Principal Smock I had nothing to do… Wait, what language?

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Butt.

DILLON: Butt’s a bad word.

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Butt’s a bad word. Now if we were talking about the conjunctive but, with one t, as in “I would go with you to the movies but, I don’t have any money.” That’s fine. You can say the conjunctive but.

DILLON: Are you sure it’s a bad word. Butt with two t’s?

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Look, I didn’t think it was either. But I’ve been flooded with emails from parents freaking out that their kids are watching a video with the word “butt” in it. So just don’t say it anymore. And change the name of the video.

DILLON: But I didn’t post the video!

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: You didn’t? Weird. Well then tell whoever posted it to not use the word butt. Use uh, shoot what’s the word…Pembelton!

(PEMBELTON walks back on stage.)

PEMBELTON: Yes, Sir?

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: What are we supposed to say now instead of butt? Tuchus?
PEMBELTON: No, that’s too ethnic.
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Rump?
PEMBELTON: That’s too insinuating.
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Of what?
PEMBELTON: Pork.
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Right. Well what is it? What do they want us to say?
PEMBELTON: The acceptable terminology that the PTA came up with was… “Flesh-mound.”
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: It is? That sounds even more inappropriate.
PEMBELTON: I agree sir.
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: I mean I know it’s not a bad word but it’s just…gross sounding? “Flesh-mound.” Bleh.
PEMBELTON: That’s what they want students to use from now on.
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: All right. Whatever. Flesh-mound. Refer to your back area as a flesh-mound.
DILLON: Okay. Fine, but I—
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: But that’s not even why I called you in here. Do you know why I called you in here?
DILLON: It wasn’t because I said “butt”?
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: (Stern, a warning:) Dillon.
DILLON: I mean, flesh-mound.
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: No. Look, despite the school’s objection to the word butt we would love for you to do some events for us. A couple fund-raisers, stuff like that.
DILLON: I’m sorry, you want me to—
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: I’ve never had a celebrity student at this school Dillon. Back in 2005 there was a chance that Zac Efron was going to join our student body. Which would’ve been amazing, I mean my God the amount of press and unsolicited funds a school can get if a celebrity joins your school…oh man…it’s mouthwatering. But then he decided to do a movie instead. Also he’s illiterate so we really would’ve had to fudge his test scores. Which I was willing to do. Man was I willing…but uh…
DILLON: Sir.
PRINCIPAL SMOCK: Point is now I have one now. You! The “Ow I hurt my flesh-mound” kid. I mean your video has already amassed over half-a-million views.
DILLON: It has?!

PRINCIPAL SMOCK: So what do you say, would you be willing to do a few events for us. You know pep rallies, news interviews, maybe a fundraiser, all for the sake of your school?

End of Scene.