

Addendum I



Internet Safety Tips for Parents

Online tips for parents:

1. LOCATION: The computer or mobile device should be in a central location in the home where you can see it and monitor use.
2. You should be able to see their electronic device screen while they are online.
3. If they take the laptop or mobile device to other friends' homes, talk with their parents about how they monitor online access.
4. Spend time with your children online. Have them teach you about their favorite online destinations.
5. MONITOR: Monitor your child's electronic device use. Limit Internet, email, instant messaging, and chat room access.
6. Make sure you know where your child is going online, where he/she's been, and with whom.
7. Closely monitor your child's participation in any chat room.
8. Make sure you understand how your children are using the electronic device, what web sites they are visiting, and who they are communicating with online.
9. Always maintain access to your child's online account and randomly check his/her email. Be upfront with them about your access and the reasons why.
10. COMMUNICATE with your child about your expectations and what you consider appropriate for him/her while they are online.

Online tips to discuss with your student:

1. Never give out any type of personal information to anyone on the Internet. (Including name, address, phone, age, family income, friend's names, school location, photos, etc.)
2. Never use your parent's credit card on the Internet without their permission and supervision. Credit cards should never be used on sites that are not secure.
3. Never share passwords with anyone. When selecting passwords to use on the Internet, do not pick something that could easily be figured out or deciphered or is a common term.
4. Never arrange a face-to-face meeting with anyone you have met on the Internet. People you meet in a chat room may not be who they appear to be; Sally who says she's 12 can really be Bob who is 45.
5. Never open emails if you do not know who they are from or if they make you feel uncomfortable in any way. Unsolicited e-mail that is opened could give you a virus and be the cause of unwanted mail (spam).
6. Never click on banner ads in a site. Most of the time, they will add your address to a database and you will receive unwanted spam mail.
7. Never use bad language or send mean or threatening email. Never joke around about inappropriate things when emailing others. Likewise, never respond to messages or bulletin board postings that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or harassing.
8. Never upload (post) pictures of yourself or your friends/family to the Internet or online service to people you do not personally know.

There are many sites on the Internet that can be potentially dangerous to minors. These sites are blocked while students are logged on to the District network, and will be protected at home by a connection to the school district's content filter program. Students are in violation of District policy if they access these sites through other proxies. Parents may want to oversee their home access.

Additional Sources of Internet Safety Information:

FBI Parent's Guide to Online Safety: <http://www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm>

Internet Safety: <http://www.isafe.org>

NetSmartz: <http://www.netsmartz.org/netparents.htm>

Common sense media: <http://www.common sense media.org/advice-for-parents>