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Tip Sheet
Social Networking

#FCPSDigCit

Be Aware of Social Media Risks:

1. **Harassment or cyberbullying** on the part of your students or others

2. **Posting information that could be used** to embarrass or manipulate, cause psychological harm, steal one's identity, or determine one's physical location

3. **Damage to reputation** or future prospects

4. Spending **too much time online**, losing a sense of balance in activities or developing behavioral addictions to technology

5. Exposure to **inappropriate content**

6. **Potential for inappropriate contact** with others

Teach students to:

1. **Follow age restrictions.**
   Most sites require users to be 13 and older. If your student is younger than the age limit, do not allow them to use the site.

2. **Activate security settings and set permissions.**
   Allow only persons they know to view and comment on their posts.

3. **Evaluate websites.**
   Read the site's privacy policy and code of conduct. Find out if the site monitors and removes inappropriate content posted on user pages.

4. **Limit the personal information they reveal.**
   This includes e-mail address and other contact information, sports teams, places frequently visited,

or any other information that could allow a stranger to identify or contact them.

5.   **Identify the dangers of communicating with strangers** online.

6.   **Remember that online "friends" are still strangers**.
     You can never be sure that the person you only know online is who he or she says they are.

7.   **Examine the photos they post.**
     Details in photos could provide identifiable information, such as street signs, license plates, and school or city locations.

8.   **Be on the lookout for extremist language** and steer clear of these websites and people.

9.   **Never meet an online friend in person** without a trusted adult.

10. **Immediately report cyberbullying** to a trusted adult**.**

11. **Immediately report anything inappropriate, dangerous, or suspicious** to a trusted adult.

12. **Develop a positive digital footprint.**
     - Remind students that anything posted online has the potential of being read by anyone. The things they say could be copied and redistributed. Once they post, they no longer have control.
     - Cite **all** sources that were used during their learning and research.

Works Cited

Collier, A. and Magid, L. (2012). *A Parents' Guide to Facebook.*
         <http://www.connectsafely.org/pdfs/fbparents.pdf>.

"Guidelines on the Use of Social Media and Related Electronic Communication Tools." *Guidelines on the Use of Social Media and Related Electronic Communication Tools*. FCPS, 31   July 2015. Web. 17 Mar. 2016. <http://fcpsnet.fcps.edu/cco/web/socialmedia/>.

"Best Practices for Students Using Social Media to Communicate with FCPS." *Best Practices for Students Using Social Media to Communicate with FCPS*. FCPS, 23 Nov. 2015. Web. 17 Mar. 2016. <https://www.fcps.edu/node/32059>.