Online Safety Resources for Parents

A compendium to the presentation for students and parents: ***Internet Safety for Families.***

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There are three sections to this document:

1) Resources/links
2) Conversations on Family Tech Boundaries
3) An "app" glossary

Resources/LINKS

Where to report cyberbullying on social media sites/phones/apps/etc.

- http://www.meganmeierfoundation.org/helpful-links.html

Parental controls and app comparisons:

- http://www.tomsguide.com/us/pictures-story/596-best-parental-control-apps.html
- http://internet-filter-review.toptenreviews.com/
- http://cell-phone-parental-control-software-review.toptenreviews.com/
- http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/magazine/2012/06/facebook-your-privacy/index.htm
- http://www.freewaregenius.com/2011/10/11/protect-your-children-online-with-qustodio/
- www.opendns.org
- http://www.theonlinemom.com/secondary.asp?id=635
- http://www.mymobilewatchdog.com/
- http://www.mobile-spy.com/
- http://www.mobistealth.com/
- http://www.androidtapp.com/catch-me-if-you-can/
- http://www.e-spy-software.com/
- http://www.teensafe.com/

Up to date apps and parent info:

- https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/15-sites-and-apps-kids-are-heading-to-beyond-facebook
- http://www.commonsensemedia.org/advice-for-parents/social-networking-tips

Helpful news websites:

- http://www.theonlinemom.com/main_cmt.asp
- www.mashable.com
- www.geekwire.com

Links to various phone providers information on parental controls:

- http://internet-safety.yoursphere.com/2011/09/mobile-parental-controls-att-verizon-sprint-t-mobile.html

Facebook Privacy article: http://mashable.com/2011/09/28/new-facebook/

iPad parental controls:

- http://ipadparentalcontrolblog.com/
- http://support.apple.com/kb/ht4213

iPod parental controls:

- http://knol.google.com/k/how-to-setup-parental-controls-on-iphone-ipod-touch-os-3-0-edition#
- http://support.apple.com/kb/ht1904

Password protecting wireless routers:

- http://www.techiechips.com/password-protect-wireless-wi-fi-router/
- http://www.toplang.com/internetlock.htm

The websites that I mentioned to keep in mind are:

- www.chatroulette.com
- www.formspring.me
- www.ask.fm
- www.omegle.com
- www.pipl.com

Conversations around Family Technology Boundaries:

General questions to answer –

- How much time per day/week will various technologies be allowed?
- Can social media be accessed from all devices?
- What should children do if they encounter problems/issues/inappropriate content?
- Who gets administrator rights? Are passwords shared?

Common sense advice for social media:

- Important messages should always be delivered face-to-face if possible! Consider the pain of a boyfriend breaking up with you via text message.
- Ask yourself if you would say the same thing in person.
- What you intend to send to one person may easily end up on the screens of many. Be mindful that your texted messages and photos can be forwarded.
- Phones are subject to periodic text reviews from parents. No deleting texts.
- Remember that neutral messages are often perceived as negative.
- Don't say bad things about people.
- Don't gossip.
- Stay positive.
- Never share personal information (age, birthday, school, sports teams, clubs, church, email, phone number)
- Never "friend" large number of people especially people they do not know in real life
- Never post "location based content" that tells people where you are
- Never post of share Sexually provocative images

Texting:

Driving and texting are never okay. If it's an emergency, then pull over.
Don't text or check text messages in the midst of a conversation, when someone wants to talk to you.
Be respectful when a parent asks you to put your phone down.
Always promptly answer texts from parents.
Think before sending your text message.
Don't send a text that you wouldn't want to receive. Do not text when you are mad or having a fight.
It is not good manners to text while with a group of friends. It may make others feel excluded and is simply not polite. If it's an emergency, that is, of course, a different ball of wax!
Limit how many texts you send out. Consider calling your friend if you are texting 10 times or more.
Make time to call friends; its good communication practice and develops closeness.
Appropriate times to text:

Limit to no more than ½ hour a day during the week
Weekends, more leniency – cannot impede family time, homework and sleep
No texting during homework unless used for collaboration and help
No texting during school hours
No texting after you go to bed (leave phone in living room)
No texting during family functions

Parent App "Glossary"

There are a number of the apps, programs, websites that parents should be aware of and watch out for on their children's phones… of course as technology moves so fast this is certainly not a complete list nor ever will be, but simply a starting point to learn more:

- **Twitter** – microblogging, 140 characters
- **Instagram**
- **Snapchat**
- **Tumblr** – streaming scrapbook of pictures, text, video, create "tumblelogs" that can be seen by anyone if made public. Porn is easy to find, privacy is difficult, posts are often copied/shared.
- **Google +**
- **Vine** – post & watch 6 sec video clips, owned by twitter
- **Wanelo** – (want, need, love) – combines shopping, fashion and social networking
- **Whisper-** social "confessional" app, lets users post whatever is on their minds, often sexual, anonymous
- **Kik messenger** – app based alternative to texting, easy to copy all, allows communication w/strangers, community blog, teens use real names
- **Oovoo** – free vide0, voice, messaging app. Group chats
- **Yik Yak** –free location based, post anything you want anonymously, distributed to nearest 500 people
- **Ask.fm**
- **Whats App** – send texts, audio/video, photos, must be 16+, encourages to add strangers
- **Omegle**
- **Yo-** send "yo" to family/friends, target for hackers

Ghost Apps/Vault Apps – these are apps that can be put on to a phone to conceal content from other users.

- Secure Vault for Apple – use encryption and passcodes to lock away files. Without the secret code folders can be locked away from parental view.
- KeepSafe – another app to lock away photos. If someone tries to break in without the proper security code the app captures photo from the front facing camera
- Calculator% - File vault. App works like a normal calculator but when the user enters "period period" a hidden menu appears. Users can store files, documents, photos. It also has an "emergency" button that loads the adding machine back onto the screen.
- LINE – messaging app capable of sharing videos and photos as well as free texting & video chat. App includes purchases that can surprise parents on their credit card. App claims parental permission but no way to verify.
- BurnNote – Messaging app where users exchange secret messages. Sends links to any user even if not using the app