Stay Safe!

Here are some tips to stay safe while using the netbook.

- Create strong passwords with upper and lowercase letters, and numbers.

- Keep personal information like passwords, telephone numbers and addresses to yourself and parents/guardians. Just like keeping your locker combination safe. Don't give this information out to your friends.

- Before uploading photos and videos, ask yourself if it's a good choice. Once they are on the internet, they cannot be taken back.

- Beware of online predators in social networks and chat rooms.

- Never agree to meet someone you do not know and only met online.

- Keep your parents or school personnel aware of your online activity.

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Digital Citizenship

Working with Digital Media

www.evscschools.com

What is Digital Citizenship?

Digital refers to electronic computerized technology. Citizenship is the quality of a person's response to membership in a community. Anyone who uses the Internet is a part of this community. Digital citizenship is a concept that helps teachers, parents, and students understand how to use technology appropriately and how to stay safe. Most students today are comfortable using technology, but not necessarily with using technology for educational purposes and in a socially acceptable manner. Digital citizenship prepares students for a society full of technology and how to use it safely and responsibly.

Everyone that uses technology needs to know what is considered ethical and appropriate technology use. Before digital citizenship, we were expected to make good decisions and treat others with respect. Now that we are not actually face to face with a person does not mean that the rules have changed. Students need to understand that behind every avatar or username there is a human being with feelings. We are never anonymous. Everything we do online may have our name attached to it invisibly. This is called a digital footprint. Students need to be given opportunities to build and leave a positive footprint. We are not just users of the web; we are stakeholders and citizens of the web.

Keeping Students Safe

The digital world can be used as a tool for powerful and positive learning. Some inappropriate material exists online. To protect our students, the EVSC does have filtering software installed on the network and the netbooks. The EVSC also has an Internet Acceptable Use Policy. Parents or guardians should go through this policy with students.

Each netbook has software installed that provides virus protection and content filtering. Tampering with these features is a violation of the Acceptable Use Policy and can leave you in a non-protected state. It's important to shut down the computer at night and restart once inside the school to insure that all updates to software and other enhancements to the netbook take place and have the netbook in its optimum working condition.

The Rules of the Digital Road

When online, students should make sure they are polite, use suitable language, understand that email is not always private, do not disrupt the network, and use caution when uploading and downloading files. Pornographic materials, stalking and harassing others, violation of local, state, and federal laws, accessing files of others, using copyrighted materials, and purchasing goods are strictly prohibited.

Internet Misconceptions

• Just because something is online does not mean it is true. Learn what are credible sources.

• Beware of scams. If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.

• The first search results are not always best.

• Your personal information is not always safe.

For today's student to be successful, having access to technology is essential. Learning and understanding how to live in a digital world is the responsibility of the student, the school and the family. Working together we can provide our students with the 21st century skills necessary to live and learn today and into their future.