

Central Area Meeting

February 16, 2022

Guest Speaker

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School Climate and Discipline Instructional Facilitator

Internet Safety for Students

Our children tend to communicate online differently than adults

They don't make many phone calls

They tend to get online or on apps to express themselves

The infographic features a blue header with the title "The Most Popular Apps Kids Are Using Today!" and a circular logo for "School Climate & Discipline Broward County Public Schools" on the left. The main content area is light gray and contains ten items arranged in three rows. The first row includes Tik Tok, Instagram, and Houseparty. The second row includes Zoom, Calculator Vault, and Discord. The third row includes Omegle, Snapchat, and Amino. A fourth row at the bottom center shows a mobile phone icon labeled "Mobile Devices".

| App/Device | Icon Description |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Tik Tok | Tik Tok logo |
| Instagram | Instagram logo |
| Houseparty | Houseparty logo |
| Zoom | Zoom logo |
| Calculator Vault | Calculator Vault logo |
| Discord | Discord logo |
| Omegle | Omegle logo |
| Snapchat | Snapchat logo |
| Amino | Amino logo |
| Mobile Devices | Mobile phone icon |



Tik Tok

What is it?

TikTok is a social media platform for creating, sharing and discovering short music videos, think karaoke for the digital age.

Is Tik Tok safe for kids?

- Dangerous Challenges
- Security Concerns
- Stranger Danger

What can you do?

- Switch to a private account
- Opt Out of personalized data
- Change all safety settings to "Friends"
- Enable restricted mode





Instagram

What is it?

Instagram is a free photo and video sharing app.

Is Instagram safe for kids?

- Overexposure
- Cyberbullying
- Addiction to social networks
- Depression

What can you do?

- Keep the profile private
- Share the right kinds of photos
- Teach them about the dangers





Snapchat

What is it?

Snapchat is a camera app that is connected to your friends and the world. You can talk, play, learn, and send short videos and photos.

Is Snapchat safe for kids?

- False sense of security
- It's not their data anymore
- Cyberbullying
- Online Predators



What can you do?

- Only add or accept requests from people you know
- Block strangers who try to contact you
- Talk to your child about the importance of sending appropriate snaps.
- Keep their location private.
- Make sure they do not give out personal information



YouTube

What is it?

YouTube online-platform where anyone can upload and watch video content.

Is YouTube safe for kids?

- Inappropriate Content Easy to Access
- YouTube Suggests Related Content
- Users can Privately Contact Your Child
- 'Challenge Videos' Can Go Too Far
- Sharing Videos Risks Your Child's Privacy



What can you do?

- Apply 'Restricted Mode'
- Change Who Can See Videos
- Block Concerning Users
- Customize Their Experience
- Create 'Family' Google Account
- Be Mindful of CyberBullying



Roblox

What is it?

Roblox is an interactive social platform for play.

Is Roblox safe for kids?

- Chatting & Friend Requests
- Roblox Online Payments
- Roblox Studio

What can you do?

- Un-list Social Media Accounts
- Check Shared Information
- Restrict Payment Methods
- Disable In-Game Chat





Zoom

What is it?

Zoom is a video conferencing, phone, and chat app.

Is Zoom safe for kids?

- Overexposure
- Zoom Hijacking

What can you do?

- Have a session administrator
- Keep Conference codes private
- Mute microphones and have cameras off unless necessary
- Set up the Zoom account in your own name





Netflix

What is it?

Netflix is one of the world's leading online streaming services, providing unlimited access to huge selection of TV shows and films.

Is Instagram safe for kids?

- Inappropriate Content
- Risk of hacking
- Binge-watching
- Screen addiction

What can you do?

- Create a Netflix Kids experience profile
- Set maturity ratings & block content
- Have an open & honest conversation





Among Us

What is it?

Among Us is a space-themed social deduction game where 4-10 players take the guise of crewmates, who must complete tasks around their spaceship, while randomly selected Imposters must try their hardest to sabotage the other's efforts. The imposters have to remain undetected through rounds of voting to win.

Is Among Us safe for kids?

- Inappropriate Chat
- Mild Violence
- Risk of hacking
- Use of external apps
- In-game purchases

What can you do?

- Play with your children
- Use private lobbies
- Deactivate credit cards
- Use an alias
- Talk about the risks





Discord

What is it?

Discord is just a communication app that's basically a hybrid between a chat room and Skype.

Is Discord safe for kids?

Risk of dangerous materials

Difficult to moderate

Makes it easy for predators to contact children

Makes Cyberbullying easier



What can you do?

Keep kids out until they are at least 13

Discuss how to behave on the internet

Talk about your family standards and expectations

Teach your teen to be suspicious of unsolicited invites



Minecraft

What is it?

Minecraft can be a gateway into a world of learning and exploration which encourages players to use their imagination to build three-dimensional worlds with virtual building blocks.

Is Minecraft safe for kids?

- Open to Hacking
- Contact with Strangers
- Addictive Nature
- 'Scary' Characters for Younger Gamers

What can you do?

- Block Strangers and Unwanted Contact
- Learn From YouTubers/Twitch Streamers
- Play in Creative or Peaceful Modes
- Monitor Game Time
- Create Private Server
- Learn to Play Yourself





Fortnite

What is it?

Fortnite online multiplayer “battle royale” game and is playable on Playstation, Xbox, Switch, PC and mobiles.

Is Fortnite safe for kids?

- Battle Royale
- Addictive
- Free to Play... or is it?
- Violent

What can you do?

- Buying V-Bucks
- Gaming with Strangers
- Limit Time, But Be Flexible





Calculator Vault

What is it?

Secret calculator apps allow the user to hide apps, photos, video, or other media. The app icon looks like a calculator. If someone is using this, they are hiding something. There are 100s of them. .

What are the risks?

- Overexposure
- Sexual Harassment and Online Predators

What can you do?

- Ask your child why they need to use the app?
- The password for this app needs to be shared
- Teach them about the dangers
- Discourage using this type of app





Mobile Devices and Tablets

Any devices connected to the world wide web and the person using the device is at risk.

What are the risks?

- Loss of personal information
- Unwanted phone calls and text messages
- Negative communication between peers leading to cyberbullying
- Online Predators
- Accessibility to all apps and various websites unless blocked
- Loss of hardware device resulting in loss of photos, videos, texts, etc.



What can you do?

- Your child should only answer calls and texts from people they know
- Block strangers who try to contact you
- Talk to your child about the apps they are allowed to use
- Go through the phone to set up parental controls
- Monitor your child's activity on the device
- Talk to them about the dangers of sharing things online
- Make sure their accounts are set up to "Ask before purchase"



7 Steps to Good Digital Parenting

Talk With Your Kids

Educate Yourself

Use Parental Controls

Set Ground Rules and Enforce Consequences

Friend and Follow But Don't Stalk

Explore, Share, and Celebrate

Be a Good Digital Role Model



Monitoring Tools and Parental Controls

- Create a separate account for each child on the home computer
- Enable strict content filtering. (Parental controls)
- Talk with them about what websites they are allowed to visit
- Install antivirus software
- Enable YouTube safe mode on all browsers for each child's account
- Set screen time limits on desktop computers and mobile devices. Your devices' settings most likely already have this feature in settings. Look for "Screen Time" or "Parental Controls"
- Restrict online multi-player gaming unless you or only people you know are playing with your child
- Use Google SafeSearch
- If your child has a cell phone, the rules are:
 - Open cell phone policy (You, the parent, have access to the phone at all times.)
 - Phones should be stored at night outside of the child's bedroom
 - Use an app like Google Family Link, Apple Families, or Smart Limits from AT&T to monitor usage. Bark is a paying app as well.

Why is all of this so important? Cyberbullying



Use Your Communication, Activity & Access for Good

Don't Feed the CyberBullies

- Keep critical comments to yourself.
- Don't forward rumors or embarrassing photos.
- Don't comment on insulting or harassing posts.
- Document what you see and when.
- Don't encourage cruelty.
- Don't participate just to fit in/
- Don't be silent – stand up for the victim.
- Report it.
- Treat others with respect and as you would if you were face to face with them.

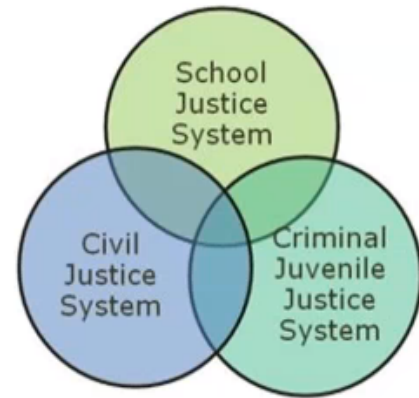




Cyberbullying Intervention

If Your Child Is Being Cyberbullied

- Safety First!
- Ensure they know it's NOT their fault.
- Don't engage or retaliate with the aggressor.
- Block and report offender.
- Change accounts, emails if necessary.
- Identify perpetrators.
- Document evidence & save material.
- **Determine Action**
 - At home (contact Server, develop filters, counseling, etc.)
 - Legal Action (inform police when threats, harassment, stalking, hate crimes, child exploration, etc.) involved.
 - Civil Action (defamation, emotional distress, false light, etc.)
 - School Action (tell teachers, Administration)





Reporting Cyber-bullying to School

- **WHO?** The principal or Investigative Designee
- **WHY?** Early Intervention is key.
- **HOW?** In writing, orally, anonymously with Anonymous Reporting Box, or to SIU via Online, phone to Silence Hurts Hotline, or text.
- **WHAT IF?** The cyber-bullying occurring off school grounds? School will take reports and provide interventions, but **can only provide consequences if the actions significantly affect a student's ability to learn** or a teacher's ability to teach (First Amendment rights)
- **WANT MORE INFO?** Go to browardprevention.org



In Review

Teach the 3 Key Ingredients to Online Safety

1. Communication,
2. Access, and
3. Activity.

AS A PARENT

- Embrace their world.
- Encourage balanced use.
- Create Rules of the road.
 - Where they can go, what they can do, & who they can speak to?
 - Utilize privacy and monitoring settings.
 - Enforce limits on how they treat others.
 - Follow school policies.
- Explain if something hurtful/scary happens, they are NOT to blame. Report bad behavior and block/unfriend as needed.



Communication

#1 – Between you and your child

- Human Connection: Communicate and connect through time and attention. It will build trust and allow you to set limits.
- Limit Setting = Discipline = Love

#2 – Import this relationship to online experiences by creating and enforcing rules of the road.

- What are you sharing?
 - Images of yourself
 - Images of others
- How are you treating others?



Technology is a privilege not a right!



Access

As a parent, know...

- It is **always on**.
- They may suffer **information overload**.
- The **pressure to broadcast** is real.
- There will be exposure to inappropriate content, people and influences.
- You must embrace their world if you want to effectively protect them.



- Courtesy of Common Sense Education,
www.commonsensemedia.org



Report Anyone Who

- Sends your child adult images,
- Asks your child to send images,
- Talks to your child about inappropriate subjects,
- Asks to meet your child offline, or
- Is abusive.

School reporting:

- School administrators
- School Investigative Unit (SIU)
- Text 'SBBC' [space], plus the text message to CRIMES (274637)
- Email SIU at school911@browardschools.com
- Call SIU's Silence Hurts Tip line 754-321-0911

National reporting:

- CyberTipline.org 1-800-THE LOST (1-800-843-5678) Reports can be made directly online by clicking on the Cybertipline at <http://www.missingkids.com/>
- Contact i-SAFE 760-603-7911 www.isafe.org
- Call your local police and ask if they have a dept. affiliated with "Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)



Working Together We Can Create a Positive Online Environment

- **Think** before you respond.
- **Applaud** and post positive comments.
- **E-mail** notification to groups that track cyber crimes.
- **Flag** offensive content for review or say why you thought something was offensive.
- **Speak** up through posts videos, counter-points, or with comments opposing offensive/hurtful points of view.
- **Talk** to friends/teachers/family about what you see.
- **Learn** about combating online cruelty from groups like NetSmartz, Anti-Defamation League, Common Sense, or Teaching Tolerance.
- **Act** by combating cruelty both online and off.
- **Know** your online community's Terms of Service or Community Guidelines, school policies, as well as what safety and privacy measures you can take.



Questions?

For more information contact
The School Climate &
Discipline Department
www.BrowardPrevention.org
prevention@browardschools.com

Guest Speaker #2

Dr. Nathalie Lynch Walsh

Chair of Facilities Task Force

Doesn't work for the district

Facilities meeting March 3 Plantation high school 7pm

Discussion regarding functional elevators in schools with students teachers or staff that are wheelchair bound

Also discussed some cafeterias and the limited space that they have for lunch and free or reduced lunch %'s are way down. Cafeteria's are structured based on this data.

Kids that get free or reduced lunch must get all parts of the lunch whereas kids that don't get free and reduced lunch can pick and choose what they want.

Policy 4001.1 (Non Discrimination Policy) : This is what covers the issues discussed

Guest Speaker #3

John Sullivan

Director of Legislative Affairs

Senate and House are currently negotiating budgets

Browardschools.com/legislative

<https://www.browardschools.com/Page/35493>

https://www.browardschools.com/cms/lib/FL01803656/Centricity/domain/12462/weekly%20reports/2022%20Legislative%20Weekly%20Report_Week%205_020722.pdf

DAC Update

Meeting was on FEB 9

Uptick of students carrying weapons to school

Now allowed to wand students with credible threat

Graduation speeches still a topic of conversation

Still a shortage of bus drivers causing significant issues

Pepper spray is allowed for students K-12 as long as it is concealed

Many people terming out for central area positions, if interested make it known now