Social Networking

Social networking is an online community where one connects with others of like interests via blogs, instant messaging, email, videos, photos and/or chat rooms.

If your child belongs to a social forum such as Twitter, Instagram, SnapChat, Facebook, or Club Penguin, check their privacy settings and any postings to make sure they do not contain personal contact information or inappropriate content. Check the pages that are linked, as these pages may contain inappropriate content or information that would identify your child.

- Online social networking should be age-appropriate and monitored by parents.

- On a social networking site, your child should restrict access to their profile using privacy settings, talking only to people known in real life.

- Your child should never accept unsolicited email, files, photographs, videos, or attachments from online strangers.

- Remind your child that passwords should never be shared.

- If something makes your child uncomfortable, scared, or worried, they should discuss the problem with you or another trusted adult.

- Listen and talk with your children about social networking safety.

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**NORTH ALLEGHENY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**NORTH ALLEGHENY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Keeping Your NA Tiger Safe Online

NA Library Website:
www.northallegheny.org/library

Brought to you by the

North Allegheny Elementary

Principals and Librarians

Keeping Your NA Tiger Safe Online

Our world today is engulfed in technology. Our children are surrounded by technology in every avenue of their lives. As such, it is important that we continue to discuss and educate our children to remain safe while they are using the Internet. It is no longer a case of filtering information to keep our children safe; we must also educate our children on how to avoid dangerous situations and how to react to unexpected and/or difficult episodes online.

Two great resources for parents are:
www.onguardonline.gov
www.commonsensemedia.org/parent-concerns

The information in this brochure will be shared with your elementary child throughout the school year in library class and in a variety of school activities. Please read and reinforce these tips at home when your child is on the computer.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your elementary school librarian.

Before you
THINK
T = Is It True?
H = Is It Helpful?
I = Is it Inspiring?
N = Is It Necessary?
K = Is It Kind?

Internet Safety

- Place the computer in a visible area of the home, not in bedrooms or other areas where children may work alone.

- Establish family guidelines for Internet usage.

- Monitor your child's Internet use including email and social networking.

- Seek training on parental controls, (i.e. filters); one such website is www.onguardonline.gov.

- Talk to your child about the dangers they may face online.

- Know the online groups to which your child belongs.

- Remind your child that strangers are everywhere, especially online.

- Instruct your child that they should never give any personal information such as address, birth date, last name, or send pictures to anyone on the Internet without your permission.

- Watch for warning signs from your child, such as spending a great deal of time online (especially at night) or refusing to talk to you about his/her activities.

CyberBullying

Cyberbullying is the use of digital-communication tools (such as the Internet and cell phones) to make another person feel angry, sad, or scared, usually again and again. Examples of cyberbullying include sending hurtful texts or instant messages, posting embarrassing photos or video on social media, and spreading mean rumors online or with cell phones.

- Make it clear to your child that they should let you know if someone says or does something that makes them uncomfortable. Many children think they may be punished or lose computer privileges if they do so.

- Tell your child not to respond to messages that may make them feel uncomfortable, and make sure your child reports those messages to you when they occur.

- Inform your Internet service provider of any inappropriate use of the Internet found by you or your child.

More information about cyberbullying is available at:

www.stopbullying.gov

SMART

Stay Safe Don't give out your personal information to people / places you don't know.

Don't Meet Up Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Always check with an adult you trust.

Accepting Files Accepting emails, files, pictures or texts from people you don't know can cause problems.

Reliable? Check information before you believe it. Is the person or website telling the truth?

Tell Someone Tell an adult if someone or something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable.

Follow these SMART tips to keep yourself safe online!