

Summary

Social Media, Safe Surfing, & Security
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Facebook

Facebook is for social interaction online. Facebook started in a college environment. It now has 500 million users. 50% of these users log on daily. Any phone that can be used to send a text messages or an I-Pod touch with internet access can be used to access Facebook.

Facebook is free. However, marketing companies are using it and the Internet to learn about you. You become searchable on the internet via Google, Yahoo, etc... Privacy settings are important. Many of our students are not using these settings on their account. When you sign up for applications that use your computer such as games you allow outsiders to have access to the information in your account. An application called check in lets everyone know your location when you log-on. This application works on phones that have GPS. Turn this application off.

Posting on Facebook is making a public statement. Once something is posted even if it is deleted Facebook keeps a record of it. The police have access to information that is a threat. Parents can be held liable for their child's inappropriate activities both legally and at HCCA.

Things you can do to protect yourself and your child.

Go in and change your privacy settings so they are set-up. Right click on Privacy setting ->Custom->Custom settings. If you set these settings to friends only, it is semi private. Go to the bottom of the screen. Click on Applications & Websites → Public Search then turn it off.

Joe Garcia has a site set up to help you. www.joeg3.com/blog is the address

It is important to Log-out don't just close the screen.

Keep track of what your child is doing. Get your child's password. Then you can check his/her history using K9. Check your child's friends on Facebook. If you don't know someone on your child's list of friends delete that contact.

K9 Web Protection by Blue Coat is a top rated filter and is 100% free for home use. It is MAC and PC compatible. It blocks advertisements and games that take your information. K9 can be loaded on the computer by user or if it is installed through Administration it will be for all the users on that computer.

K9 is not an antivirus. You will still need a virus protection program for your computer.