

**Title of Session:** C3: Cybersafety

**Moderator:** Davina Pruitt-Mentle

**Title of File:** 20070305c3

**Date:** March 5, 2007

Room: Cyber3 Group

**DavinaP:** well since we have some new folks a quick introduction please who where from reason for interest in c3

**ShayneT:** I teach computer literacy and Microsoft applications and web-design to teenage girls.

**JeffC:** I'm Jeff Cooper, on Helpdesk here and an educator for over 15 years... currently in Forest Grove Oregon.

**DavinaP:** Davina and from University of Maryland helping with the C3 efforts

**DavidWe:** I'm David Weksler. I'm a HelpDesk volunteer and I lead a math education and technology discussion here. I'm in New Jersey, not far from New York City

**BJB2:** I'm interested in learning safety for my computer, but I'm also interested in learning how to provide a safe learning opportunity for my students without depending on filters

**ShayneT:** That's a good point

**DavinaP:** Today we were to review more of the backing up virus protection and passwords so if folks would prefer I can still attach that however I wanted to change and focus on questions the group may have for a national survey that will be coming out

**DavinaP:** the national survey will be targeting tech coordinators and teachers and trying to get a snapshot of the state of affairs currently happening in K-12

**DavinaP:** including the state of affairs includes safety/security passwords virus protection etc... so we will still be covering that does this meet everyone's needs?

**ShayneT:** I'm ok with that.

**BJB2:** I'm good

**DavinaP:** Great so the question I will toss out...

**DavinaP:** if you would like to have information that you could share with principals, admin, school boards parents etc... what end product "facts" would you find if interest

**BJB2:** what are schools doing to encourage students to be critical thinkers and problem solvers when using online resources?

**ShayneT:** what guidelines are we giving students to practice safe surfing and what steps should schools/parents take to keep an eye on them

**DavinaP:** related to promoting literacy standards for example? or who is in charge of teaching this? and how often is it addressed?

**BJB2** wonders if the new NETS is going to be addressing some of these problems

**ShayneT:** what is NETS?

**DavinaP:** Shayne when you mention safe surfing do you mean who and how are these skills taught? how often? stand alone course (media spec) or all content areas?

**DavinaP:** National Educ tech Standards

**DavinaP:** <http://cnets.iste.org/>

**DavinaP:** I do believe they have at least thought about the safety issues however I push for the c3 efforts cyberethics, safety and security

**DavinaP:** Has anyone here had a security issue at their school (via themselves) or heard through the grapevine something that has happened ?

**ShayneT:** I do web-site evaluation with the kids, also caution them about using Myspace, Facebook (the latest craze) safely and tell them how to use the features if they don't know. But I find that kids think they are invincible and the admin and parents don't want them to have anything to do with any kind of social networking or anything posted. I started a wiki for note sharing (the students' idea) and the school is nervous about it.

**ShayneT:** I just found a couple of videos posted on YouTube that were taken with cell phones (I believe) of teachers.

**DavinaP:** so all of these are safety type related?

**DavinaP:** are there policies in place that state what students can and can not do via school networks regarding these social networking sites?

**ShayneT:** Last year I traced a case of cyberbullying to an Australian school (I'm in Toronto). The girl had provided all her info. I contacted the principal and she got the girl to take down her myspace information. I've also heard of cyberbullying using Facebook info and easily accessible pictures. I just don't wanting them putting too much info out there.

**DavinaP:** Do any others in the group have schools that have specific rules and regulations spelled out?

**ShayneT:** Our school just tells the girls not to do anything that would reflect on the school badly.

**DavinaP:** but what happens if they do it anyway?

**ShayneT:** I ask nicely for them to take it down. They are usually pretty good -- once they are caught.

**ShayneT:** I think the posting of teachers is an ethical issue. (Or posting anybody's picture without permission).

**ShayneT:** And I've told them that.

**DavinaP:** so no policy has been put in place as to what students can and can not do?

**DavinaP:** I agree about the posting teacher info or any of this over all relates back to ethical issues good choices etc...

**TomAB** joined the room.

**TomAB:** Hello

**BJB2:** good job, Tom

**ShayneT:** I'm not sure that social networking is bad in itself. I've been on Facebook myself for quite a while, used it to recruit students for community service work, give reminders to students to bring in art materials, etc. I suspect that I'm the one to set the rules because the Admin really doesn't know about it.

**DavinaP:** Hello Tom

**ShayneT:** Does NETS address this?

**TomAB:** I'll just listen awhile

**DavinaP:** Not really these standards were in place before these new tech came about-- thus the reason for looking into revamping the standards

**BJB2:** The primary goal of the ISTE NETS Project is to enable stakeholders in PreK-12 education to develop national standards for educational uses of technology that facilitate school improvement in the United States. The NETS Project will work to define

standards for students, integrating curriculum technology, technology support, and standards for student assessment and evaluation of technology use.

**DavinaP:** so a question to find out how educators feel towards social networking sites if they feel they are harmful helpful? if lessons have addressed this tech issue etc.. would be helpful (although I'm sure I would know the answer)

**DavidWe:** Doesn't the potential exist, for most things, for misuse?

**DavidWe** . o O ( but also GOOD use )

**DavinaP:** There are always good uses as well as Shayne has illustrated some positive uses however it is something

**DavinaP:** that teachers and parents must learn more about

**BJB2:** I like the link between teachers and parents, Davina

**BJB2:** I don't think one can do anything without the other

**DavinaP:** Do others beside Shayne feel social networking an area of concern or something educators in K-12 should learn more about and be aware of?

**ShayneT:** I'm actually worried that we give the kids the knowledge to use different technology tools but then they misuse it outside of class. Most of my students have computers at home.

**TomAB:** My school district is heavy with filters. I can't even get on some sites from my University and my instructor

**BJB2** . o O ( Targeting Librarians is doing a series on social networking. They meet next on March 21 )

**ShayneT:** sounds interesting, thanks!

**DavinaP:** Well I am not a big filter person I think I would place more educational efforts into teaching ethical issues but that's my opinion

**BJB2:** and mine!

**ShayneT:** Me too. I don't think the schools start early enough.

**DavinaP:** if I were to take a survey where should more money be spend (federal money) training teachers to help teach cyberethics or spend the money on filters how would this group respond?

**TomAB:** I'm with you but we have had a lot of abuses as well

**DavidWe . o O ( ethics )**

**BJB2:** what about accountability?

**DavinaP:** Tom what type of abuses?

**ShayneT:** Depends on the age group. Younger kids - more filters but start educating on ethics and safety.

**DavinaP:** Bj accountability????of what??? please explain

**BJB2:** Tom said they've had abuses. What about the abusers...do they not have to demonstrate accountability for their actions?

**TomAB:** Porno etc soft sex and people spattering on the side walk after jumping from the trade center on 911

**BJB2:** what's the point of having an AUP if it's not going to be enforced?

**DavinaP:** Ah yes Tom does your school have policies in place regarding what happens if students "abuse" the tech system?

**ShayneT:** By the way, Alan November has this discussion going on his web-log:  
<http://nlcommunities.com/communities/alannovember/archive/2007/01/31/115902.aspx>

**TomAB:** Yes when they get caught ....teachers must be very vigilant

**DavinaP:** what happens to them?

**TomAB:** I'm not sure because I only have a personal PC in my room and that is only as of a few years ago. but the code of conduct has spelled out the terms for having the privilege to use the pc

**DavinaP:** are there different consequences for different infractions? Others in the chat as well please what are your schools policies?

**TomAB:** Yes but I couldn't give you the details

**BJB2:** Maybe something we could do, Davina...

**TomAB:** ?

**BJB2:** is have everyone bring in a sample of their school's AUP

**ShayneT:** At lunch-time, students sometimes use the computers to do their social networking and surfing. At my kids' school, I don't think anyone is supervising.

**BJB2:** and have a folder here where anyone can access them

**DavinaP:** what would folks consider to be appropriate consequences for posting "pictures" and slander about teachers on a social networking site?

**BJB2:** firing squad

**ShayneT** smiles

**DavinaP:** do you think this "lunch hour" activity is productive?

**BJB2:** no

**ShayneT:** My son reads geek sites to learn MORE about computers (he's graduating grade 12 and has applied for comp sci).

**DavinaP:** so perhaps they should be blocked?

**TomAB:** I had kids using profanity between themselves in the adjacent classroom and when I turned my printer on their dialogue printed out in my room with their names and computer stations.....Of course they still denied it

**ShayneT:** Each kid is different. I'd rather see kids socialize in person but a few kids are from out of town and talk to family members on the internet.

**DavinaP:** So Tom what did you do in this case even though they denied it?

**TomAB:** I reported it to their lab teacher and he dealt with it . they were not my students

**DavinaP:** so socializing should be kept open? with the schools computers or only if they have their own? and if they have their own OK using the schools wireless?

**DavinaP:** Tom do you know if the teacher followed up?

**ShayneT:** I'd like to know what he did, too.

**TomAB:** yes he did ....I got to go

**ShayneT:** The other concern I have is literacy. you can see that kids don't write as well as they used to.

**TomAB:** good night!!!!

**ShayneT:** Bye

**DavinaP:** Or perhaps a different way of writing

**DavinaP:** an interesting article <http://safekids.com/2007/02/12/new-approach-to-online-safety/>

**TomAB** left the room (signed off).

**DavinaP:** Well I am not sure if I came up with particular questions to target for our upcoming survey but I certainly see areas that interest the group or are of concern. Next month ....

**ShayneT:** Good article, thanks.

**DavinaP:** I can perhaps share some of the proposed questions to get feedback

**ShayneT:** ok

**BJB2:** do you want this to be the topic for the next C3 discussion, Davina?

**BJB2** . o O ( which will take place on April 2 )

**DavinaP:** Next month we will also discuss further password protection (via the new recommendations) and the art of phishing/pharming what we have to watch out for

**DavinaP:** yes April 2

**BJB2** nods. Just a couple more minutes left. Any last comments, questions?

**ShayneT:** Thank you Davina

**DavinaP:** Ok then goodnight everyone!