

## Internet Safety and Anti-Cyberbullying Resources for Parents

- **American Library Association Online Safety Rules and Suggestions** <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/oif/foryoungpeople/childrenparents/especiallychildren.cfm#online> ○ An exhaustive list of web sites, PDF documents, and information on online safety, cyberbullying, and filtering information for parents and children.

- **ConnectSafely** – <http://www.connectsafely.org/> ○ ConnectSafely.org is the leading interactive resource on the Web for parents, teens, educators – everyone engaged and interested in youth safety on the fixed and mobile social Web.

- **Net Cetera** – <http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/net-cetera.aspx> ○ The Net Cetera campaign provides information and resources about helping young people make safe, responsible decisions when they're online.

- **SafeKids.com Online Safety & Civility** – <http://www.safekids.com/> ○ Website developed by Larry Magid, author of *Child Safety on the Information Highway*.

**For additional information please contact your school librarian.**



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Executive Director Educational Technology  
amcmullan@kleinisd.net  
832-249-4436

Ms. Stephanie Green  
Assistant Director  
Media and Library Services  
sgreen1@kleinisd.net  
832-249-4317

### Klein ISD

7200 Spring Cypress Road  
Klein, Texas 77379  
<http://www.kleinisd.net>



## Teaching Students To Be Safe Online

Klein ISD provides instruction in grades Pre-K through 12 on Internet safety. The curriculum includes age appropriate information and lessons that focus on personal safety, security and cyberbullying.



# Overview of Klein ISD's Internet Safety Curriculum

The KISD curriculum is based on materials from NetSmartz, <http://www.netsmartz.org/index.aspx>, a resource of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children.

## Highlights by Grade Levels

**Pre-K-2:** *Staying Safe* - Use of interactive web sites that don't require usernames/passwords. Students create a *Trust Tree* where students identify trusted adults.

**3-5:** *Knowing the Rules and Cyberbullying* - Students use online databases to learn about password security and intellectual property. Students are asked to sign a pledge to be *safe on line*.

**6-8:** *Academic Integrity, Cyberbullying, and Social Networking* - Students watch *Feathers in the Wind*, a Native American tale about the dangers of gossip as a way of bullying. They create public safety announcements on Internet safety for display as posters or digital presentations.

**9-12:** *Talking & Texting, Avoiding ID Theft, and Social Networking* - Students learn to protect their reputations online as they prepare to enter college or the work force.



About one-third of online teens have been cyberbullied..<sup>1</sup>

## Help Students Avoid Cyberbullying

- Encourage children and teens to look out for each other. Bullies are less likely to target those who have a network of friends to rally around them.
- Talk with students about cyberbullying; who they are meeting online, what sites they visit, and what they talk about.
- Ask children or teens to report bullying whether they are the victim or the witness
- Make sure students keep passwords and other information that could be used to bully them private. Always have them log-off when they leave the computer.
- Find out what public sites your child uses and review what your child is posting. Turn on safety features available in programs and services and supervise your children when they are online.



Two in five parents surveyed report that their teen has been affected by cyberbullying.<sup>2</sup>

## What To Do If Someone Is Cyberbullying Your Child

- Look for warning signs: sadness or anger during or after internet use, withdrawal from friends and activities, falling grades, or depression.
- Tell your child not to respond or retaliate.
- Save cyberbullying messages as proof.
- Block anyone whose behavior is inappropriate or threatening. Check with your Internet service provider to find out how.
- Report cyberbullies to the website where the abuse occurred or contact the phone or web provider company.
- Acknowledge the harm. It's important for your child to hear you affirm that what happened wasn't fair or right.
- Seek assistance from your child's school.

## References:

<sup>1</sup> Lenhart, A. (2007) *Cyberbullying and Online Teens*, Pew Internet & American Life Project.

<sup>2</sup> Microsoft Cyberbullying Survey, November 2010