

Jesse Weinberger

OvernightGeek University

Internet Safety presentations for: students, parents, and schools since 2003



Professional Development/Educator's Handout

1. Absolutely NO teachers, staff, coaches following/friending students on social media - never, ever, ever, ever. Coaches & classes can use apps like **GroupMe** (comments can't be deleted) or **TeamChat** - and parents can log into these accounts to track communication.
2. No photos of a student with the child's name. Group shots are okay. (minimum - list names of those pictured but NOT their position in the photo)
3. **No gonna-be** photos or posts while on school trips or ahead of major events. Everything should be posted in past tense. When necessary post behind the firewall (ie documents for coming Washington DC trip).
4. SCHOOL: When High School seniors graduate, scrub their photos and content off of the school's website - don't leave this content accessible.
5. **No smartphones** allowed in school - or at minimum in the classroom. Phones can be kept in their lockers, but no phones at lunch or recess. (I can guarantee with 100% certainty that you will see a significant drop in discipline issues, visits to guidance, and truancy/missed days.)
6. Teachers should NOT send students to a YouTube link, but rather, should either extract the video or should use a 3rd party curating app. (Check out **JuniorTu.be** for ed version)
7. MUST: install an app on Chromebooks or iOS devices (barf) which give parents the ability to restrict school issues devices at home. Serves two purposes: 1)protects district 2)encourages parents to engage in the process.
8. **Encourage failure** as a tool towards learning. Learning can only happen (physiologically) in the brain via failure, identification of failure, and concerted correction & practice. (Read: *The Talent Code* by Daniel Coyle)
9. **Litmus test: Is it true? How do you know?**
Go out of your way to encourage media literacy everywhere. Lack of media literacy skills is one of the key and accidental foundations of : psychosocial issues, cyberbullying, sexting, sexual predation, and contributes to increased rates of anxiety, increased rates of truancy, and human sex-trafficking.
10. **Watch out for kids who can't stay awake in class:**
Adolescents who get insufficient sleep and/or poor quality sleep are far more likely to engage in increased risk taking behaviors, exhibit less self-control and are absent from school more often. In addition, the lack of sleep/quality of sleep also impacts the child's ability to learn, pay attention, and process emotional stimuli.
11. **Paper versus Screen**
 - a. Libraries and Librarians matter - kind of a lot. Maybe more than any other single line item re: to educational funding.
 - b. Technology = tools which help improve human processes. It should not be used as a replacement for paper. That's stupid. Don't be stupid.
 - c. Typed note taking versus paper stinks - "worse" on recall based questions (memorization) and "significantly worse" on conceptually based questions.
 - d. Computer based standardized testing versus paper shows subpar results
 - e. Reading comprehension on the screen versus paper also shows significantly suboptimal results
 - f. Screen induced "cognitive fatigue" can present as anxiety, ADHD, etc



- Make cognitive dissonance a regular part of your discussions.
- Just an extension of media literacy
 - Is it true?
 - How do you know it's true?

Brain impact in the classroom

- Screen should = more than just pen replacement
- Choose paper over screen whenever possible during class time
- Allow students to choose paper formats when possible when completing assignments
- Paper note taking > screen note taking - 100% of the time



Just another aspect of media literacy

"What is the VALUE of the thing versus the COST of the thing (literal cost, risk, etc)?"

- How do you know?
- Which data are helpful?



Be aware of AIRDROPS in the classroom

*Just another reason to not allow smartphones out during class time - unless there's an educational purpose

NOTE: School, teachers, staff have a legal mandate to report



ZERO teachers/coaches following students on sm

Be aware of the compulsion or fear a child may have about "needing" to respond to a text or a message right NOW.

Listen for changes in child's pickup details. Sleepovers, etc



DO NOT require sm use by students for classwork or sports.

- GroupMe or TeamSnap

Tech addiction is very real and as harmful as any other addiction

Students may be losing hours of sleep b/c of sm. Sleep deprivation can present as a mental health crisis



Gaming is a great tool for rote memorization tasks - like mult tables or definitions

Gaming & screens do NOT work as well for conceptual learning. (Exception live math tutorials ie Khan Acad)



DO NOT send students to a YouTube link which opens directly in YT.

Options:

1. Extract the video & post on teacher's website
2. Use JuniorTu.be to curate and extract content - ed version
3. No, KidsTube has not completely solved the problems