

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP: TIPS FOR EDUCATORS

Students are digital natives; most not knowing a time without access to technology and the internet. Although they're savvy, they also need guidance, boundaries, lessons and appropriate behavior modeled. Forty-three percent of students state conversations with trusted adults help them stay safe online.

TIPS TO HELP GUIDE STUDENTS IN BEING POSITIVE ONLINE...

- ✓ Engage students in conversations about how to behave online.
- ✓ Monitor computer use and behavior while online. Watch for children who may be visiting inappropriate sites or searching inappropriate terms.
- ✓ Create a policy addressing appropriate technology use; include the policy within the student handbook.
- ✓ Educate students on the aforementioned policy and inform them of your expectations.
- ✓ Encourage reporting by offering an anonymous method for children to report incidents of bullying or cyberbullying.
- ✓ Involve the students in preventing inappropriate online behavior through conversation and boundary setting.
- ✓ Assure counseling services are available for children at school who have or are experiencing bullying or cyberbullying.
- ✓ Emphasize the importance of thinking before you post or hit send.
- ✓ Ensure all school personnel understand reporting methods and exercise empathy.
- ✓ Encourage adults working with youth to model similar online behavior.