

SAFE TECHNOLOGY and DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

A New Responsibility for School Community Councils

Optional Discussion Guide for School Community Councils

A. Definitions to inform the discussion

- **The internet** is an electronic communications network that connects computer networks and organizational computer facilities around the world. *Merriam-Webster*
- A **computer filter** is software that prevents someone from looking at or receiving particular kinds of material through the internet or software for sorting or blocking access to certain online material. *Merriam-Webster*
- **Digital citizenship** means the norms of appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior related to technology use, including digital literacy, ethics, etiquette, and security. *Utah Code*

B. Discussion questions

- We have received a report from the district and school administration about filtering and management tools that are in place at our school as well as education currently being provided for students and parents.
 - Are there any questions?
 - Do you feel you have enough information to complete the council responsibilities related to safe technology and digital citizenship?
 - If not, what additional information do you feel you need to make informed decisions?
- Recognizing the opportunities the administration has outlined for proactive, constructive use of internet opportunities, would the council/students like to implement an opportunity/experience for students to engage in digital citizenship projects that could produce positive outcomes?
 - Is the council comfortable with the activities being implemented at the school?
 - Would the council like to engage students in developing an activity/opportunity?
 - If so, shall the council appoint a subcommittee or appoint council members to develop and oversee the implementation?
- Understanding the greatest threats to our students that have been identified by the administration, what should be done to address those concerns specific to our school and students?
 - Identify the issues and how each can best be addresses through technology, monitoring, supervision, education, other means, or a combination.
 - Keep these specific concerns in mind as the technology and education responsibilities are discussed.
- Technology
 - Are we comfortable with the filters, management tools and monitoring, and supervision being provided at our school?
 - If not, what recommendations does the council have for the school administration and staff?

- Are the recommendations possible given the physical and economic constraints in place?
- If not, is there something else the staff and school administration could do to minimize the concerns raised by the council?
- What is the action plan with timelines to accomplish the goals agreed to by the council and administration? What is the timeline including a completion/reporting timeline to report back to the council?
- Student Education
 - Is the council comfortable with the student education being provided and the groups providing the education?
 - Would the council like to receive some feedback/input from students about their experience in the training?
 - If not, where does there need to be improvement?
 - How will the issues needing improvement be addressed?
 - Who will address them and how. What is the timeline including a completion/reporting timeline to report back to the council?
- Parent Education
 - Is the council comfortable with the parent education being provided and the groups providing the education?
 - If not, what improvements could be made?
 - How will the issues needing improvement be addressed?
 - Who will address them and how. What is the timeline including a completion/reporting timeline to report back to the council?
 - Are there other issues the council would like to consider? If so, what are they?
 - How will the identified issues or opportunities best be addressed?
 - Perhaps the council would like to engage students in this discussion to learn what concerns they have and/or what opportunities for positive projects they identify.
 - Who will address them and how. What is the timeline including a completion/reporting timeline to report back to the council?
- Summary
 - Have we addressed the greatest threats and opportunities identified by the staff, administration, students, and council?
 - Have we included timelines/reporting dates back to the council, and who is responsible to complete the action plans?

There are resources and website links at www.schoolandtrust.org under Councils and Work of Councils to assist school community councils in completing these new responsibilities.