Tips for Internet and Chromebook Safety

The Internet is a world of information and resources that we and our children can access from the living room with the touch of a button. There are amazing things to be discovered, learned, created and communicated through the web. But like everything else in the world, this wonderful resource is not completely free from risk. To help you support your child's exploration while still keeping them safe, we have collected some tips and resources for your consideration.

Talk to your Child about the Internet:

- ★ **The most important tip we can give you is to talk to your child about using technology.** Not sure where to start or what to say? Check out this website for some ideas…

Privacy & Safety:

- ★ Help your child understand potential consequences of sharing personal information online. Teach them:
  - ○ to be very careful about sharing their name, phone number, email address, postal address, school, or picture...*this should not be done without your permission.*
  - ○ not to open email from people they don't know
  - ○ they should not respond to hurtful or disturbing messages
  - ○ not to get together with anyone they "meet" online
- ★ Advise your child never to share passwords, not even with a close friend. If they think they did, they should change the password.
- ★ Teach your children to logout of computers when they finish their work, even at home. This will prevent a friend or sibling from posting or emailing using their account--even as a joke.
- ★ Your Internet Service Provider may have free parental controls that can limit children's access to websites and communication features (e-mail, instant messaging, chat) by age, content categories, time, and other choices.
- ★ If you would like to deactivate the camera installed on your child's Chromebook, please click here for instructions. ***Any user is able to activate and deactivate this function. While the camera can be turned off, it cannot be locked.**

★ If you would like your child's email forwarded to your account, please email the technology coordinator.

Cyberbullying:
★ If your child is being cyberbullied, teach them to not respond, to keep a copy of all the messages, and to report it to the school or website. If the messages include threats, report this to the police.
   ○ [Here is a website](#) with more resources on cyberbullying.
★ We recommend your children be in the presence of a trusted adult when using their Chromebook, or any electronic device.

Digital Citizenship:
★ Did you know Berne Union Local School District has an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) that all Berne Union students must agree to?

   ○ [Click here to read our AUP](#).
★ Teach your child that if they wouldn't do or say something face-to-face, they shouldn't do it online.
★ Remind your child that once they do something online, they can't undo it. Their words, pictures, etc may be digitally captured by someone else at any time...deleting something does NOT mean it has gone away.

More Resources:
★ **[Internet Security Professionals share what they tell their children here](#)**.
★ **[Parents' Guide to Facebook](#)**.