



Partnering with Parents—the Digital Lives of our Students

I think we all know that devices are here to stay in our lives and the lives of our kids. So how do we set family and school norms such that our kids behave on-line in a way that aligns with their values? We've been thinking about that a lot at Skyline as it seems more and more we need to teach pro-social behaviors for students' digital lives as much as we do for our hallways.

We wanted to share some of the best resources we have found for what to teach and how to teach it. Dr. Sameer Hinduja is one of the leading experts in cyberbullying and the education that prevents it. I have had the good fortune to hear him speak at conferences twice. Here is a great short introduction to him and his expertise <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=231pkvdUVHs>. Ultimately, he urges us to do the following:

- 1. Talk with our kids about our expectations both at school **and** at home (for conversation starters check out <http://cyberbullying.org/questions-parents-should-ask-their-children-about-technology>).
- 2. Set out clear consequences for violating family or school norms or expectations
- 3. Follow through with those consequences when kids make mistakes and yet keep the behavior separate from the child's identity, value or worth (for more on this, check out <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkV45nIISfw>)
- 4. Foster connectedness to peers, to school and to responsible adults

And if you lean toward using real world examples with your kids, here is a June 5th article of this year about 10 students who lost admission to Harvard for offensive social media postings, the same kind we find ourselves talking to students about all too often <http://fortune.com/2017/06/05/harvard-acceptance-rescinded/>.

For more great tips on how to support safe and positive social networking, please visit this page <http://cyberbullying.org/smart-social-networking.pdf> . Thank you for working with us to keep our students safe on-line, too!

Donna Hood, Principal

What's happening outside of school?
Check out Skyline's Community Fliers [electronic bulletin board](#).