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Abstract: Stopbullying.gov; “Tips for Teachers” and “Social Media and Games”

The first article that I read is titled “Tips for Teachers; Warning Signs a Child Is Being Cyberbullied or Is Cyberbullying.” It highlights the importance of identifying the warning signs for when a child might be the aggressor or recipient of cyberbullying. It’s essential to look out for students who are demonstrating sudden changes in digital and social behavior. This article also recommends that I develop activities that encourage self-reflection. As a technology teacher and future librarian, it is vital to have students identify and express their feelings about themselves and other students. These types of lessons will help students find ways to emphasize with one another.

I also reviewed the article “Kids on Social Media and Gaming; Social Media Apps and Sites Commonly Used by Children and Teens.” As I have a young son who is just venturing out into the gaming and social media world, I found this article to be extremely helpful. For one thing, it is striking to see the total number of social media apps and sites that are currently accessible. There is an extensive quantity of social media venues that students can get their hands on, thus exposing them to the risks of encountering harmful or dangerous content. Privacy and location precautions are imperative so that students do not become more vulnerable to stalking, cyberbullying, inappropriate content, or other dangers. This article listed 19 popular social media sites, but failed to include TikTok, which is currently the most popular social media app in the world! Another section of this article focused on gaming, something that is of high interest to my son and his friends. It discusses the adverse effects of cyberbullying, which occurs commonly in online gaming. We must teach children about safe online behavior. This includes not sharing personal information and not clicking on links from strangers. We must also teach children what to do if they encounter situations of cyberbullying.

*Reflection: As a whole, I really see a lot of value in this website. Prior to working on this assignment, I was not aware of Stopbullying.gov and the numerous resources that are included on the site. This website is a helpful resource for students, teachers and parents alike. I plan to refer to it whenever I am trying to assist students or families with bullying situations. As a tech teacher, I really appreciate the information that is provided about cyberbullying and the ways that we can help students who are caught up in it.*

Competencies Addressed:

004: A. Advocates for the development of an exemplary library program that encourages excellence in all students.

004: D. Promotes awareness of, respect for and responsiveness to learning differences and diversity within the school and community.

005: I. Employs a variety of techniques (e.g., reading materials, media, programs, motivational strategies) to guide the development of independent readers.