



# Digital Citizen News - March 2019

Volume 2 : Issue 7 - March 2019

Have a Great Month!



TIME FOR A REALITY CHECK-UP?

IT'S MARCH - DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR STUDENTS/CHILDREN ARE DOING ONLINE?

**This month we highlight what is happening with Digital Citizenship in another of our local school districts. See the feature on page 2.**

**IF YOU HAVE SOME INTERESTING DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP ACTIVITIES HAPPENING IN YOUR DISTRICT LET US KNOW ABOUT IT. SEND US AN EMAIL at [dc@gstboces.org](mailto:dc@gstboces.org)**

\* \* \* \* \*

**This issue we also take another look at Digital Equity and making sure all students have the same opportunities with technology devices and learning.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Check out this month's printable poster with a picture of a great digital citizen on it!**

-----  
The main objective of the GST Digital Citizenship Initiative is to raise awareness of Digital Citizen topics and techniques among the teachers, students, and parents in GST BOCES' 21 Component School Districts.

For more information and materials about Digital Citizenship visit our website at <http://dc.gstboces.org>.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Filter a website, and you protect a student for a day. Educate students about online safety in the real world environment, and you protect your child for a lifetime."\*

Christopher Harris @ifthenchris  
Coordinator, School Library System  
Genesee Valley BOCES

This quote from a fellow New York State educator makes a solid point. It appears at first to just be a variation on the old "Give a man a fish..." axiom, but it does clearly state the value of giving students the knowledge that they need to be successful, and educating them to live morally and ethically in the ever encroaching online world.

Today's children will live in a world where they are required to live, work, communicate, and socialize online. We need to help them build frameworks and standards for themselves that will allow them to protect their identities and personal data to assure success in their futures. They will also need to develop ways to shield themselves from influences like fake news and information sources that have negative biases.

Technologies do exist for filtering and blocking websites, social media, and instant messaging but they can't catch everything. New sites pop up every day, and ways are developed to get around blocking and filtering apps. Some students see the fact that they are being filtered as an incentive to try to access the blocked, forbidden content. The challenge to beat the technology makes them try harder, and when exploits are discovered they spread rapidly among student populations.

### A few more thoughts about Internet Filtering

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), enacted in 2001, stipulates that schools and libraries must block or filter Internet images that may be harmful to minors. Schools regulated by CIPA must also adopt policies to monitor minors' activities online.

A 2003 study by the Electronic Frontier Foundation and the Online Policy Group found that even schools that use minimal Internet blocking and filtering software block tens of thousands of websites without harmful content. This over-blocking limits Internet access for students and teachers.

More on filtering at <http://go.gstric.org/207-filter>



**Sign Up to receive this newsletter in your email inbox**

Scan this QR code with your phone, or go to <http://go.gstboces.org/dcnews-signup> in your browser.

**Send comments, suggestions, and questions to [dc@gstboces.org](mailto:dc@gstboces.org)  
Visit <http://dc.gstboces.org> March 2019 - page 1 of 3**



# HENDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ELMIRA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

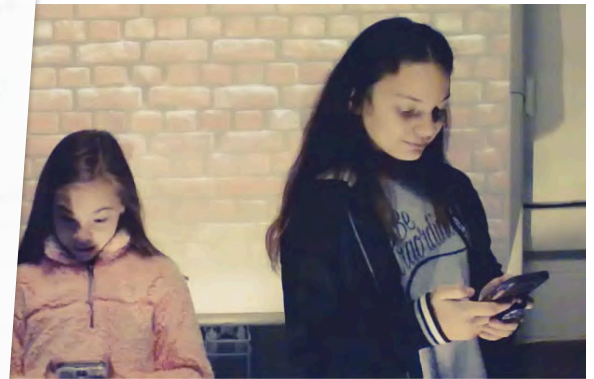
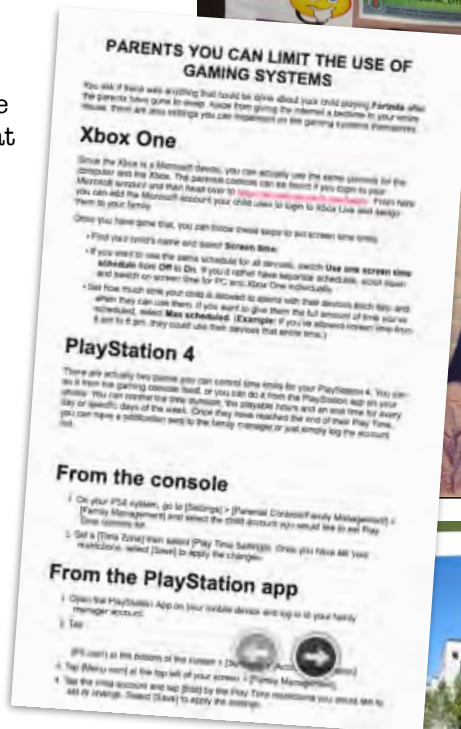
Family, School, Community: Together We Succeed



There are lots of great things going on at Hendy Elementary School in Elmira. We caught up with Hendy's Tech TA, Mary Fran Troccia, who shared with us some of the things Hendy students are learning about Digital Citizenship.

The top two images show some of the posters around the computer lab that teach students about digital citizenship. To the right are two more images captured from a short video that some students made.

The first part of the video is about some students who send an unflattering picture of a student with the word ugly on it to everyone in class, and the aftermath of that action. The second part of the video shows some positive visual messages about avoiding bullying and cyber-bullying. One other item that Mary Fran shared was a document that was sent home to parents who were concerned about how much time their children were spending on video games.



Thanks to Hendy School in Elmira and Mary Fran for sharing this info with us!



# Social Media Information

Social Media sites are very pervasive on the Internet, and it seems that every news story or advertisement on TV invites you to like them on \_\_\_\_\_ (insert your favorite social media name here).

Parents know that their children and their friends are connected almost constantly through these sites every day. But what kind of social media use is appropriate at what age?, and how much time each day should be allowed? - those are important questions that parents struggle with.

Here are some links to good information for parents trying to deal with social media use with their kids.

From [KidsHealth.org](http://KidsHealth.org) - Teaching Kids to Be Smart About Social Media - <http://go.gstric.org/207-smart>

From [PsychologyToday.com](http://PsychologyToday.com) - Why Social Media is Not Smart for Middle School Kids <http://go.gstric.org/207-notsmart>

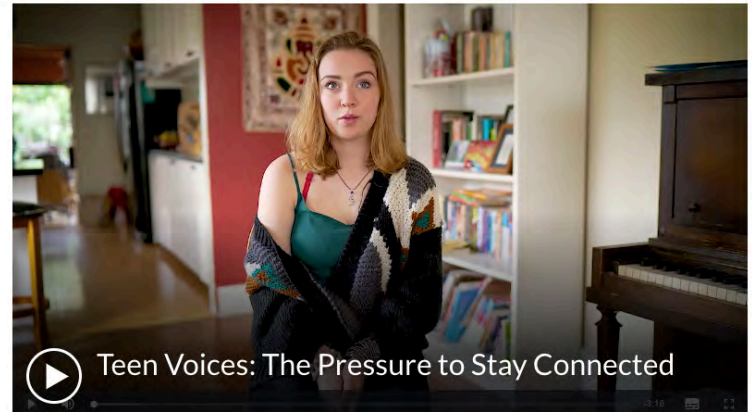
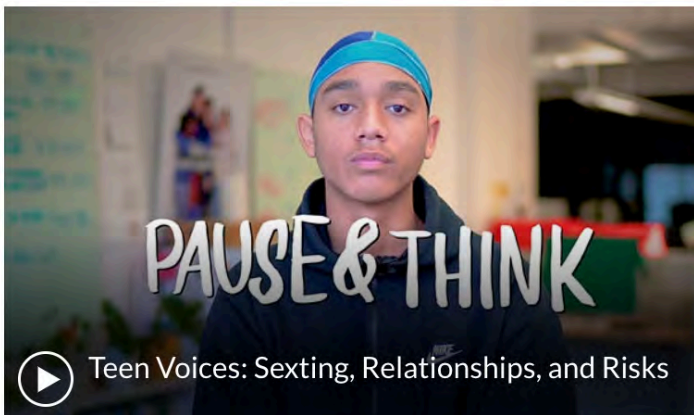
## APPROPRIATE USES OF SOCIAL MEDIA

"You are the key to your safety!"



EXPLORE THIS SMORE NEWSLETTER ABOUT SOCIAL MEDIA <http://go.gstric.org/207-smore>

## COMMON SENSE MEDIA



The Video Library at Common Sense Media has a lot of great, short videos that can be used in the classroom or at home by interested teachers or parents. They make great lead-ins to discussion of lots of Digital Citizenship topics - visit the site using this link. <http://go.gstric.org/207-commonvideo>



# MARCH 2019 Digital Citizenship Poster - Color it in and put it on a mirror.

I WILL KEEP MYSELF **SAFE**  
ON THE INTERNET

I AM NOT A **CYBERBULLY**

I WILL KEEP MY  
INFORMATION  
**PRIVATE AND SECURE**

I WILL **COMMUNICATE**  
RESPECTFULLY

I VALUE MY  
**IDENTITY**

I AM DIGITALLY AND  
TECHNOLOGICALLY  
**LITERATE**

I WILL DEVELOP A  
GOOD **REPUTATION**  
ONLINE

I WILL GIVE **CREDIT** TO  
OTHERS FOR THEIR WORK

## BASIC INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Print this poster on a piece of paper
2. Color it in as you wish
3. Cut out this center circle with scissors
4. With permission tape the paper on a mirror so that you can see your face in the center.
5. Practice saying some of the "I" statements around the outside of the circle.



For some extra fun take a selfie of this paper and your face in the mirror and email it to us at [dc@gstbooces.org](mailto:dc@gstbooces.org)

