Responsible Use of Social Media

Parent University
January 30, 2018

Today's Agenda

- Review the School Counseling Department mission and vision statements
- Discuss the different social media platform classifications
- Discuss some of the common apps adolescents and teenagers are currently using and the potential dangers of each application
- Review some strategies that parents can use to ensure safety for their child while online
- Complete an exit ticket and return to Ms. Amos 😊

School Counseling Mission Statement

The CMIT-South School Counseling Department aims to empower students to become high-achieving leaders in their schools, families, and communities, preparing them to achieve their maximum potential in post-secondary education and professional career fields.

School Counseling Vision Statement

The School Counseling Department at CMIT-South aims to assist and encourage self-understanding and responsible self-direction in all students. It is my mission to guide students in their journey to successful and fulfilling futures by providing them with a safe, compassionate, and supportive learning environment in which they feel empowered to lead themselves towards achieving their maximum potential in academic, social/emotional, and college/career goals.

Classification of Social Media Platforms

- Social Networking
  - Facebook, Google+, LinkedIn
- Blogging
  - Twitter, Tumblr
- Photosharing
  - Instagram, Flickr, Snapchat, Imgur

- Videosharing
  - Youtube, Periscope, Vimeo
- Dating sites
  - Tinder, Bumble, Coffee Meets Bagel
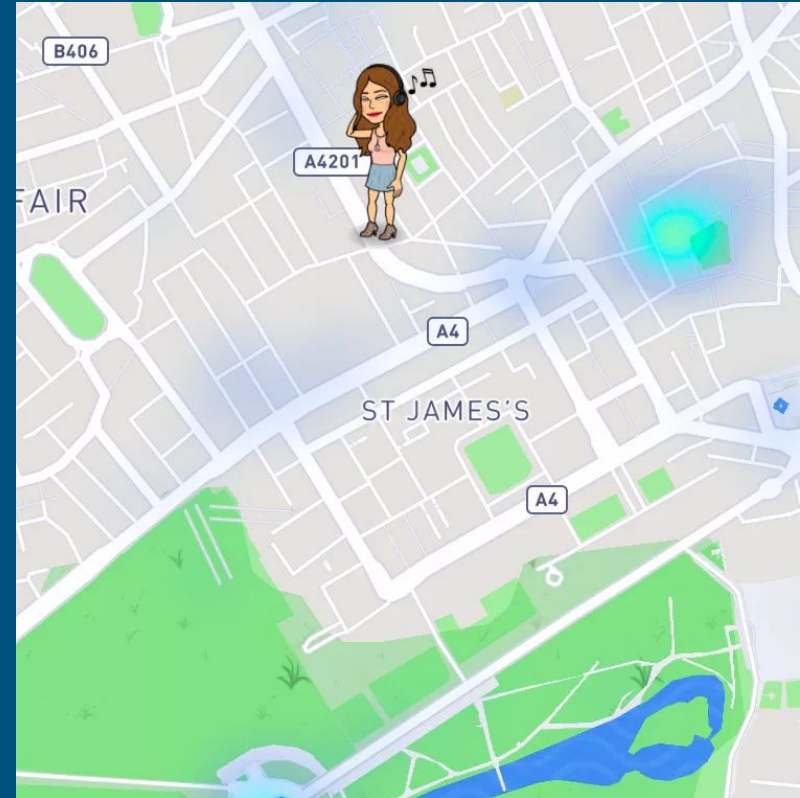- Social Community and Discussion Sites
  - Reddit, Quora

KiK

- Free texting app available on both iPhone and Android
- Also available for download on iPods and iPads
- Users are able to communicate with multiple people, send photos, and upload
- Users can communicate with anyone, of any age, from all over the world
- App can be considered 'anonymous' as users create unique screen names.

- Potential Dangers:
  - Many teens use this app to send nude photos
  - If account settings are not set to private, anyone can contact your child and send inappropriate messages and photos to them
  - Bullying can take place on this app since the only identification is by screen name.

Snapchat

- Mobile messaging app mainly used for photo sending
- Allows the option for photo to be 'destroyed' within 10 seconds of them being opened
  - User sets the amount of time the recipient can view their photo
- Often referred to as the "safe sexting app"
- Has a map feature that allows other users to pin point your exact location.. Down to the exact street and building that you are in.
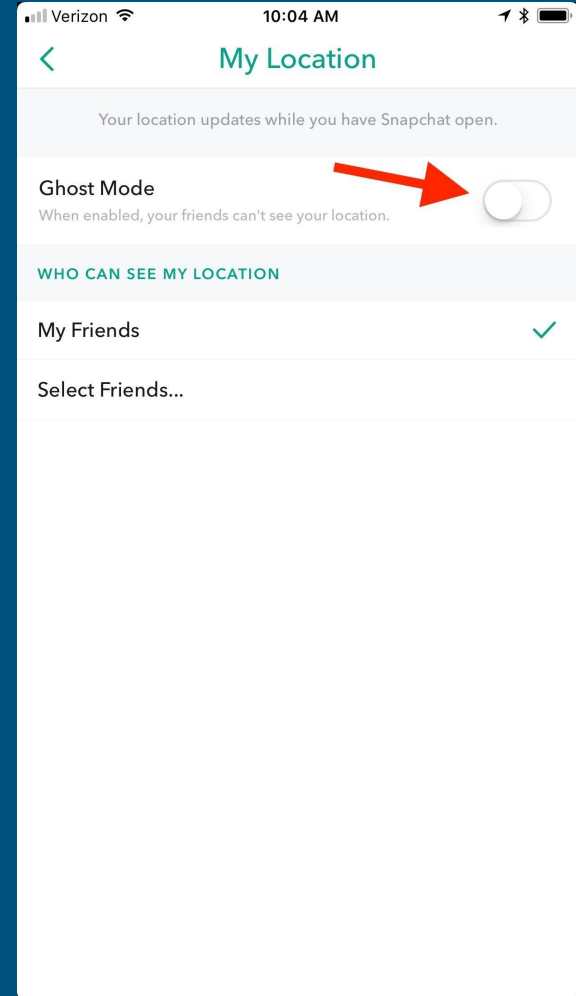
Snapchat

- Potential Dangers:
  - Map Feature
    - Allows for others to detect your exact location, down to the building of where the phone is located
    - Ghost mode is disabled unless manually enabled
  - Many adolescents think that once their photo is sent, that it is gone for good..
    - Others can screenshot photos, or even record the photo/video on another device without the sender knowing
    - Once the photo is sent, there is no way to 'unsend' it

Verizon 10:04 AM

My Location

Your location updates while you have Snapchat open.

Ghost Mode
When enabled, your friends can't see your location.

WHO CAN SEE MY LOCATION

My Friends ✓

Select Friends...

Vault Apps

- What is a Vault App?
  - Apps in disguise that typically hold inappropriate content
  - Typically requires a passcode to access
  - Several terms are used for the apps: "vault apps", "ghost apps", "hidden apps" and even "photo vaults"
  - Easily accessible and most are free apps – There are many of these apps in the Play Store and App Store – just search "photo vault"
- What are they used for?
  - Hiding content
  - Storing inappropriate messages and photos

- What to look for:
  - These apps look and function just like any other app (like a calculator)
    - Hint: Your child should only have 1 calculator app on their phone
  - These apps will have a passcode to access the hidden content (photos, videos, etc.)
  - Easily accessible and most are free apps – There are many of these apps in the Play Store and App Store – just search "photo vault"

Tinder

- Used to find dates and hook-ups using GPS tracking
- Anyone near your GPS location can view your profile
- 'Swipe right' to like someone's profile, 'swipe left' to pass on a profile
- If you match with a profile, you are able to message and chat with them

- Potential Dangers:
  - It is easy for adults and minors to find each other
  - GPS tracking can lead potentially allow stalking
  - The 'rating' system can be used for bullying

Blendr

- A flirting app that allows users to send photos and videos to other users on their 'friends' list
- Users able to 'rate' the hotness of other's photos
- Can customize your profile with photos, interests, and your favorite activities
- GPS features allow users to find other users in their area

- Potential Dangers:
  - The 'rating' system allows for bullying
  - The GPS feature allows predators to locate minors in their area.
  - Many fake profiles are created, and many minors lie about their age to create the image that they are older than they really are
  - This app is very popular for sexting

Whisper

- Anonymous confession app
- Can send messages to other users
- Users can create videos to share with others
- Uses GPS to allow users to connect to other nearby users

- Dangers:
  - Bullying! Since it is anonymous, users can post pictures and confessions of others
  - GPS feature allows others, such as predators, to find children/adolescent users

ASKfm

- Anonymous Q & A app
- Users create a profile page and other users post questions to their account. Questions posted are anonymous.
- Questions recently answered are visible to all on the user's profile

- Potential Dangers:
  - Unmoderated, and has no parental controls
  - This is a very popular site/app used for bullying. Since it is anonymous, it is very difficult to identify users
  - Many US suicides have been linked to bullying specifically from this site/app
  - This site/app has been known as a place for cruel and sexually explicit questions

What Can Parents Do?

- Check your child's device(s) frequently
  - Random phone checks
- Stay up to date with the most recent apps
  - New apps are created daily..even hourly!
- Parental Control Options on all devices
  - Be aware of any passcodes/passwords your child may have

- Know your child's online account login information and/or follow their accounts online
- Check-in with your child regularly to determine what apps they use and who they are communicating with
- *Keep it real..* Have an open and honest conversation with your child to review the potential dangers of social media with your child

Questions and Exit Ticket