



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Digital Citizenship, Internet Safety and Media Literacy Advisory Council
November 15, 2017
Connecticut State Department of Education
450 Columbus Boulevard
Six North, Meeting Room A
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was held on November 15, 2017. The meeting convened at 1:10 p.m. and the following members were present:

Present: Melissa Wlodarczyk Hickey (Chair)
James Sepa
Jennifer Dolan
Charles Dumais
Jennifer Falotico
Barbara Johnson
Kristie McGarry
Mary Ellen Minnicello
Bob Mitchell
Karissa Niehoff
Marcus Stallworth

Absent: Gregory Lawrence

I. Call to Order

II. Introductions

III. Legislative History

Marcus Stallworth and Melissa Wlodarczyk Hickey presented the background and history.

IV. Charge of the Advisory Council

Members read Public Act No. 17-67, Section 1 and were introduced to the following charges

- a. provide recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding best practices relating to instruction in digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy
- b. provide recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding methods of instructing students safely, ethically, responsibly and effectively use media and technology resources.

V. Scope of the Work

Members discussed and defined the following terms and best practices: digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy.

a. Digital Citizenship

- i. Fully participating in 21st century society as a critical thinker-creating and maintaining digital profile.
- ii. The ability to act responsibly and respectfully while using the Internet to positively participate in a global community.
- iii. Ethical and responsible use of technology while contributing to ensure it is appropriately maintained.
- iv. The younger we educate students about digital citizenship the better (permission, resources, how)
- v. Targeted instruction (ISTE standards, common sense), integrated, adult support.

b. Internet Safety

- i. Is there truly safety? To be open and will not be made perfectly safe. Education
- ii. Supporting and ensuring safety and security of individuals through interpersonal interactions in cyberspace that mirror the expectations we have for face-to-face interactions.
- iii. The ability to keep yourself, your personal information and your intellectual property protected, private secure and not put others at risk
- iv. to be able to recognize warning signs of cyberbullying or “friends” who are strangers, to recognize phishing, be able to save or create passwords
- v. Knowing you leave digital tattoo. What do you want to leave behind?
- vi. Education, risk-awareness, modeling, supporting policies
- vii. Interaction with people, sites, etc. that do not expose self, or others to physical or other personal harm

c. Media Literacy

- i. To find and evaluate information (in a variety of formats) based on accuracy, currency, expertise and bias and use it to create new learning for yourself and share it with others.
- ii. Creating, finding, evaluating and creating content critically and thoughtfully
- iii. Level of fluency in media platforms that allow the understanding and evaluation of all forms of media to effectively use media as a resource to enhance growth and not stunt someone else’s growth.
- iv. How to educate students how to critically analyze and evaluate: websites, social media, and media content (advertisement, articles, news)

VI. Schedule of Meetings

- a. Hold December 13, 2017, from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for next meeting (CSDE or CAS)
- b. Come with additional action plan ideas, suggestions of presenters for future meetings to share best practices

VII. Other Topics:

The Council brainstormed some possible action plan ideas/next steps, including:

- a. District survey/needs assessment, ask districts what they have/use
- b. List of best practices and links to resources
- c. Recommendations for each stakeholder group (e.g., hire library and media specialists, professional learning, higher education)
- d. Barbara Johnson offered to host information sessions at the next Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL) conference
- e. Think this through thematic lens, not so much a certain platform (e.g., social media)
- f. Link information to current CT standards/frameworks where standards address digital citizenship, internet safety, and/or media literacy
- g. Create a document for districts of guidelines
- h. Explore the [Report of the Commissioner's Council on Mathematics](#)

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.