

**Title of Session:** Cyberethics, Cybersafety, and Cybersecurity

**Moderator:** Davina Pruitt-Mentle

**Title of File:** 20051024cybersecurity

**Date:** October 24, 2005

Room: After School Online

**DavinaP:** Jeff you look like the only one so far besides BJ

**JeffC:** Davina... I just want to take this opportunity to say I don't mean anything personal by the comments I make in these forums. I know I get pretty argumentative... and I want you to know that I appreciate the work you do... we're all out there trying to make this a better and safer net for the kids.

**DavinaP:** understood

**DavinaP:** I was going to try to get some discussion going about cyberethics....how to "teach it"--any ideas...I'd like to here what you have done...

**JeffC:** Now here we have a forum that there should be at least a couple dozen educators... and there's "just us."

**JeffC:** Cyberethics is a bit tricky of a subject. It's like getting permission to use photos on the Net.

**DavinaP:** Before you came BJ and I were trying to find a set day per month to do just that and then perhaps we could start to "get more"

**BJB2:** Davina, it might be a good idea to post reminders of this discussion to the K-12 Students group...those teachers are the ones who should be here

**BJB2** . o O ( and also to the teacher educ faculty forum and the preservice teachers group )

**JeffC:** I came up with a solution for that... let me run it by you... when I use a picture, even though I'm pretty sure it falls under "fair use" I send an email to the Webmasters saying something to the effect "I'm going to use your picture found at <http://wherever.com/pix.jpg> for my page at <http://mypage.com> ... it is for educational purposes. If you don't want me to use it, please write me back and I'll take it down.

**DavinaP:** interesting--I am embarrassed to say I didn't know we had this "group"

**JeffC:** Davina, I think we might want to spend this time setting up a group room for you.

**JeffC:** For Cyberethics/security, etc.

**JeffC:** That way... we can get people to join, and post \*between\* sessions to Discussion... one way to keep communication flowing... what do you think?

**DavinaP:** Cyberethics, Cybersafety and Cybersecurity (C3)

**BJB2:** creating a group room would give you a place to store files and links too

**JeffC:** exactly

**DavinaP:** I think this would be wonderful --what's the next step

**RobynN** joined the room.

**BJB2:** first step is to verify the next meeting date!

**BJB2:** then we'll let Jeff work his magic

**JeffC** waves to Robyn

**BJB2:** Hi, Robyn

**RobynN:** hello Jeff, BJB

**DavinaP:** looks like the next session and sessions thereafter would be the first Monday of each month

**JeffC:** Davina is here to talk about Cyberethics and security, etc. Robyn... we're setting the next meeting date... then we're going to set up a group for her.

**BJB2:** thanks, Davina. And Mary's last name is?

**RobynN:** oh sounds like fun...

**DavinaP:** Hi Robyn --since there were only a few of us we were going to start to set up a group room about C3

**RobynN:** It sounds like a good idea for a group...I just had a speaker for our sisterhood group about ID theft and of course he touched on cybersecurity, but most people at the meeting had no idea what he was talking about

**DavinaP:** we were going to discuss cyberethics--how to help students understand and "teach it"--I was hoping we could here how different folks are trying to teach this?

**DavinaP:** oh for next month yes Mary Rad... from the Socrates Institute

**BJB2** nods. Thanks

**RobynN**: hmmm...why not talk about the kids at the Kutztown school

**RobynN**: that would spark some interesting discussions

**BJB2**: what are the kids at the Kutztown school doing?

**DavinaP**: regarding more about Socrates institute and cybersecuriry you can visit our C3 site <http://www.edtechoutreach.umd.edu/C32005/index.html>

**RobynN**: there was a group of students who hacked into the school's network- the student body were all issued laptops

**RobynN**: and some of them figured out the poorly secured passwords into the school system

**BJB2**: yowza!

**DavinaP**: we also have a portal of resources see: <http://www.edtechoutreach.umd.edu/civics.html>

**JeffC**: <http://www2.spywareinfo.com/2005/08/18/750>

**RobynN**: here's the basic story: <http://www.wired.com/news/technology/0,1282,68480,00.html>

**RobynN**: it sparked a lot of controversy, the school system has charged the kids with felonies, the parents think the kids shouldn't be punished because they were smart enough to figure the system out

**DavinaP**: and there are many others--we (myself and others from the national cyber security alliance) are completing a survey where many of these stories are being reported--even the ones that do not make the news

**JeffC**: Yeah... well... according to the article... the kids were warned (as were the parents)... and they kept doing it. It does go to my point that kids are bored to death and will find anything they can do to pass the time. They should've been given programmer bits at some MOO if they wanted to hack code... but nobody at Kutztown probably ever even heard of a MOO.

**DavinaP**: I believe the defense is using the example of the kid who brought a knife or gun on the plane last year "just to show that he could do it"--it still doesn't mean it should be done was their story

**RobynN:** I am sure there are lots of stories like this...my own son was a computer geek at his school, helped the teachers and administrators network stuff, and he said he could have messed with a lot of things, but did not want to do anything to destroy the trust he was given

**BJB2:** ahhh, Robyn, bless his little heart.

**BJB2:** and therein lies the crux of our dilemma

**RobynN:** yeah, well, I raised him right...

**BJB2:** it's not just cyberethics that we need...we need ETHICS in general

**RobynN:** plus, he has always had in the back of his mind that he may need security clearance one day

**BJB2:** being kind to each other, respecting other people's property and feelings

**RobynN:** you are right, BJ - ethics are a BIG problem with kids today, many just don't seem to get it

**JeffC:** I just learned that for kids in Mexico... plagiarism \*isn't considered unethical\*. Now... ethics \*should\* be universal... however, we tend to base them on our own cultural moral norms.

**DavinaP:** I also know of many great programs in the past that have allowed students to help train and keep networks going for smaller school systems that now have to stop due to FERPA and HIPPA regulations

**RobynN:** and courtesy is a big part of that

**RobynN:** oh Jeff, that's terrible...

**RobynN:** there was a boy in my son's senior AP English class, very bright, straight A kind of kid....the English teacher was a stickler for doing your own work, citing sources, etc. She found out on the first paper she assigned that this boy plagiarized

**JeffC:** btw... when I was in a position of teaching kids... my one rule was "use good manners." that tended to cover just about all the ground I wanted to cover.

**RobynN:** called in his folks, had a meeting with all his teachers and administration....warned the kid that she would fail him if he did it again

**DavinaP:** Jeff--the plagiarism in Mexico is new to me--this is more of a middle eastern/some Asian cultures---using others work is a form of flattery

**RobynN:** and guess what...he did

**BJB2:** Davina, Barbara Muller Ackerman has presented some good resources on values. Barbara leads the school counselor's group

**RobynN:** you know, one of the overriding principles of FIRST Robotics is what Woodie Flowers named "gracious professionalism"....

**RobynN:** everything you do should make your grandmother proud

**JeffC:** see? manners!

**RobynN:** yup!

**RobynN:** as well as being helpful, kind, working together

**DavinaP:** and how can educators help "teach" this--if not taught at home/

**RobynN:** get them involved in FIRST...lol

**RobynN:** kids will bend over backward to be good citizens and team players

**DavinaP:** could help--but many schools (at least around here--DC/Maryland) can not afford it--or school systems can not support the afterschool program (where many are done)

**RobynN:** where are you in Maryland? We are in Baltimore

**DavinaP:** College Park--I work with many of the school systems

**RobynN:** ah, my old stomping grounds for a couple of years...

**RobynN:** we are trying desperately to get FIRST in all the schools, a lot of them don't want to hear about it

**RobynN:** there's a new program through FIRST, called VEX...much less expensive and I don't think the time commitment is as great....but the overriding principles are the same

**DavinaP:** focus in many of the after school activities has really taken a sharp bend this year--to be academic driven--which for whatever reason they do not consider Robotics to be???

**DavinaP:** Jeff have you worked with First or LEGO leagues before?

**RobynN:** that is ridiculous....but as an educator you know this. Actually building the robots is really secondary....my husband always says that we are building kids who build robots

**JeffC:** Well... there was a summer program... and they used it at the university I used to work for... also an after school program that my (now ex) wife used to support.

**RobynN:** I think a lot of the educators don't want the kids exposed to the creative thinking encouraged by FIRST and LEGO League

**RobynN:** imagine what will happen in a classroom if you have kids who know how to think for themselves?

**JeffC:** I'm with Robyn on this. They'll use the excuse that it either costs too much, or isn't academic... but the reality is that it causes students to think outside the box and challenge curriculum.

**DavinaP:** One of the issues I have seen is the time constraint (even having a LEGO robotics club not even competing---but they still have to pay the teachers (and there is no money for that--have after school buses --no money for that--purchase supplies...and well how does it support the tests?

**BJB2:** finally found the school counselor transcripts I was looking for. They're at <http://ti2data.sri.com/transcripts/ss/2004/>

**DavinaP:** excellent thanks

**RobynN:** many teachers mentor without pay, at least our teacher/mentor did in previous years, but I think they are being paid now....one problem is that sports take priority and the money

**RobynN:** Dean Kamen always preaches that if schools put as much money into FIRST as they did into their sports activities and teams, we'd have a nation of tech geniuses

**RobynN:** and I agree

**DavinaP:** And although I am a BIG supporter of robotics and other similar activities I do understand that it isn't for all --but it would be nice to see some funding be able to be spent on other activities --than sports

**RobynN:** there is grant money out there from NASA (a little sparse right now, I understand) and other big companies....our son is at RIT and mentors some teams there - he worked with Bausch and Lomb, who spent \$50,000 on their team...because they are looking at these kids as future engineers and employees

**RobynN:** Xerox is doing the same, so are tons of smaller companies, with whatever they can spend

**RobynN:** Plus, as I mentioned to Jeff, there is currently over \$8 million in college scholarship money available to kids in FIRST

**DavinaP:** it is interesting that many companies support the efforts to help provide means for future employees...but related to cyberethics ...think about some of the companies that have faced critical ethics violations

**BJB2** nods solemnly

**RobynN:** I agree there

**RobynN:** they need to put their money where their "mouth" is

**JeffC:** halliburton?

**DavinaP:** during a young scholars program I host each summer one of the simulations the students have been building over the years deals with ethical issues--doesn't really state right or wrong but has them role play (online environment) different char under diff situations--cheating--bullying etc... has been interesting

**RobynN:** Do you think some of the results have been due to the fact that the students are not exposed to ethics classes in h.s.?

**RobynN:** or that they are mirroring what they see around them and read?

**BJB2** . o O ( or that the ethic and moral fiber of our society is deteriorating? )

**DavinaP:** could be--but most I think is that fact that many times we tell them what not to do but then we 1. model the opposite, 2. never carry through and 3. there are very limited consequences

**RobynN:** for instance... if Martha can spend a few months in jail and have a TV show waiting for her, plus retake the reigns of her company....what does that teach kids?

**DavinaP:** YES!!!

**RobynN:** and of course the news only shows the worst of society

**DavinaP:** I guess you could argue that it supports the notion ""try..try again--never give up" but really what does this tell everyone

**RobynN:** so they don't see what "being good" can do for them

**DavidWe** joined the room.

**DavinaP:** how does one weave this back into society--as BJ mentioned? or was it ever really there?

**DavinaP:** Hi David we were discussing ethics being taught in classrooms--any ideas to share?

**RobynN:** well, I guess they'll have to have their heads banged against brick walls a bit....this boy I was talking about, the one who plagiarized in the AP English class - the teacher did fail him for the semester - and his parents came in pleading for her to reconsider, since it would affect his GPA...she refused and told them that he had to take the consequences, they were shocked!

**DavidWe** waves

**DavinaP:** why do you think they were shocked?

**DavidWe:** Well, my niece (at Solebury, a private school in Bucks County, PA) is taking a course titled, "Ethics"

**DavinaP:** interesting in high school

**BJB2** . o O ( my generation was perfect )

**DavidWe:** High school is big pressure for college acceptances

**RobynN:** I remember that in our 12th grade Social Studies (Civics), we had some ethics woven into the curriculum

**RobynN:** I think it has to start in kindergarten

**DavinaP:** 12th grade seems a little late--how early do you think it should start?

**DavidWe:** I think there should be more "civics" in school, personally

**DavidWe:** Quaker schools often do social outreach projects, especially in the upper grades

**RobynN:** well, here in Maryland, as Davina will attest, our students have to do 75 hours of community service before they graduate....but many of them find silly ways to complete the work

**DavinaP:** well talking about ethics...and keeping ones word my 2 little ones just informed me it was time to read to them ..."you promised" ....so on that note I will have to close...Jeff stated

**JeffC:** Right Robyn, because it's \*a requirement\*. Students don't have a feeling of social responsibility. They have to be forced to do community service, which is sort of an oxymoron.

**DavinaP:** for the Nov 7th I hope to have someone from the Socrates Institute discuss how they have introduced ethics--particularly cyberethics into the classroom curriculum

**DavinaP:** thanks everyone --look forward to more discussion on a VERY IMPORTANT topic Nov 7th...goodnight