

Subject: Superintendent's Monthly Message

DISTRICT 102 - EMPOWER ALL LEARNERS TO EXCEL

Superintendent's Monthly Message



Aptakisic-Tripp School District 102
1231 Weiland Road
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
847.353.5660
www.d102.org

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Dear District 102 Families:

Internet Safety

Much of our communication with you is via email. Many of our students share a similar yet expanded personal communication style from instant messaging (IM), Twitter and YouTube, to social networking sites and cell phones. Students today are part of the most "connected" generation in history.

District 102 values the educational benefits of access to online resources and collaboration. We acknowledge and abide by our responsibility to provide filtered and monitored access to online resources at school. However, since students spend only 14% of the calendar year in school using "protected" networks, we also provide instruction in the areas of Internet Safety and Digital Citizenship no matter where a student may access the Internet. This instruction begins in the primary years and continues through eighth grade.

Cyber Safety information for parents

At the Parent Workshop on Cyber Safety held last month, we introduced a variety of websites, books and resources supporting the responsible use of Internet resources and online collaboration. Many District 102 families have strategies to protect children on home networks such as providing access to networked computers only in common area as opposed to the child's bedroom. The resources listed on the district's Cyber Safety page provide additional ideas to discuss with your child(ren) on how to be safe and responsible with personal information, images, and "cyber bullying" online.

Checkout the resources at: <http://www.d102.org/teachinglearning/cybersafety.html>. If you have other resources to share, please click on the "Contact Cyber Safety" link at the bottom of this website page and provide the URL of the resource(s).

Seeking information on Fly-Up Day

We are seeking input on how to update our Fly-Up Day procedures. There are two challenges facing us. Traditionally, kindergarten through fifth grade students and parents/guardians are provided with next year's teacher placement in early June. However, over the summer a significant number of students move in and out of the district, creating imbalances in class sizes. We also have unexpected staffing changes, teachers move, change jobs, etc. thus creating teacher changes for an entire class and disappointed children and parents.

Please share your ideas and suggestions at <http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07e2h3ubkxfrur4b0k/start> to help us make an informed decision.

I hope all of our District 102 families enjoy a restful spring break. (March 30 is the first day of spring break and school resumes on April 6.)

As always, if you have a comment or concern, please feel free to contact me or any of our administrators.

Dr. Jon Mink
Superintendent of Schools
jmink@d102.org