

To All Parents and Students of Lisle Senior High School
From The High School Administrative Team
Re Student Blogs such as Myspace.com and Facebook.com

February, 2006

Myspace.com and thefacebook.com are two extremely popular sites on the web where people may set up individual blogs and network them to other people. Thefacebook.com is very popular with college students (there are also other such sites), and Myspace.com is very popular with high school students.

These sites offer a way to meet new people, exchange ideas, etc., all the good things about any communication tool. However, these sites also have the ability to hurt people.

There seem to be three specific concerns about information posted on such a blog by a high school student. The first is that inappropriate information, posted on a blog for many to see, could create discipline situations at the school. For example, pictures of students drinking alcohol in a school setting would require action on the part of the school if it became known to school officials.

Secondly, more and more colleges and employers are searching the net and these sites to gain information to help them evaluate potential students and employees. Inappropriate information posted could be used to eliminate candidates, either as students or employees.

Lastly, and most dangerously, some personal information posted on these blogs may be used to stalk students by potential sexual predators. In addition, carelessly posted personal information may be used for the purpose of identity theft.

Lisle Senior High School does not pass judgment on these sites. Nor do school personnel troll these sites. Computer access at school is monitored and supervised by staff. Use of such a blog by students at LSHS is technically a violation of the AUP, and can potentially carry behavioral and academic consequences.

The greater purpose of this memo is to alert parents about these sites and provide some ideas about how to keep their students safe while using them. In links posted here, you will find some practical pointers on how to keep your student safe and appropriate at such sites.

The most important piece of advice the school can give is to encourage all parents to actively supervise internet use by their student. That gets harder as students get older and grow more independent. However, there simply is no substitute for active parental supervision of cyber activities to ensure the safety of the student.

LSHS will do its share to promote and maintain safety for its student internet users. We welcome any questions parents or students may have. Please visit and read the posted links regarding Myspace.com and Thefacebook.com.