Addressing the Misuse, Overuse and Abuse of
Social Media and Technology in Schools and Online Spaces

Tuesday, November 9, 2021
8:30AM – 3:00PM EST
==FREE VIRTUAL EVENT (via Zoom webinar)==

Speaker Presentations:

1) Dr. Sameer Hinduja
Responding to Social Media Misuse and Abuse Among Youth

This presentation is designed for educators, law enforcement, and other youth professionals who desire a deeper understanding of (and action plan to deal with) the major forms of technology misuse among youth today. We first share updated research findings, as well as important correlates and consequences. With regard to prevention, we emphasize the importance of developing kids with moral compasses, compassionate hearts, and resilient mindsets to bravely face social adversity and overcome it. We also encourage adults to marshal the powers of peer influence and school culture to curtail peer conflict, harassment, and other problem behaviors. In this capacity, we share specific, pragmatic school climate initiatives such as social norming, youth grassroots campaigns, peer mentoring, data-driven action plans, and multi-pronged policy and programming approaches. The overall goal is to help attendees address key intrinsic and extrinsic components of youth development, not only to enhance student achievement, success, productivity, and connectedness, but also to produce students who are safe, smart, honest, and responsible both offline and online.

2) Dr. Melissa Reeves
'Recovery' from (Lingering) Covid-Related Mental Health Challenges: Next Steps for Schools

This presentation will discuss the impact of covid-related mental health issues on academic achievement and social-emotional functioning. Participants will learn the developmental indicators of these mental health challenges along with specific strategies to implement proactive, universal, and targeted approaches to addressing covid-related mental health needs. Interventions to promote skill building will be emphasized, along with collaborative efforts that can be initiated between schools, parents, law enforcement, and community supports.

3) A Presentation by Facebook's Trust & Safety Team:
Making the Internet a Safer Environment for our Students
Jennifer Hanley & Alexandra Hayman

The goal of this presentation is to inform attendees about Facebook's tools and resources focused on Safety and Education for students online. During this presentation we will discuss Facebook's approach to safety, while sharing resources and tips for educators, law enforcement, and others who play a role in the lives of young people. We will explain our PORTAL and legal process, provide resources for victims and survivors of online abuse as well as for law enforcement. We will also discuss our Bullying Prevention Hub, new Child Safety Hub, and our Get Digital Program to help support youth, educators, and caregivers. Get Digital, our digital citizenship and well-being program first launched in March 2020, includes research-based lessons and resources that help educators guide young people to develop the skills they need to become empowered digital citizens. The program is organized around five pillars -- Foundations, Wellness, Engagement, Empowerment and Opportunities -- to help build the core competencies and skills young people need to navigate the digital world safely.