



WISH SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

The WISH Charter Community Facebook Groups, Yahoo Group, Bloomz class and sports groups, and other WISH social media groups are open to anyone within the WISH community who requests to join, including parents, teachers, staff members and enrichment providers. They are intended as a resource to facilitate communication and share information.

If you have a question about what's going on in class which does not pertain to the rest of the school or class (such as an assignment, etc.), first try contacting one of your room parents by email or phone before posting to these public forums.

If you have concerns about something that you experienced at school or that your child reported to you please have a courageous conversation with that specific individual, and do not make a public post or gossip with other parents about this event. Depending on the situation, take the matter up directly with the Committee head, your class teacher, the school principal, or our executive director if you have concerns. Please remember that all of our teachers & staff members work very hard, and our committee leaders are volunteering their time and energy to try to make our school the best it can be. We appreciate constructive feedback given directly to the pertinent individual to help with that process.

Family Partnerships is one of the core tenets of WISH Charter. This means that we are committed to working together to create a meaningful and engaging learning experience for each child. In person and electronic means of communication are some of the ways we share information. Grade level Facebook Groups are for sharing pictures and helping families establish connections with each other using a social networking forum. They are not intended to be used for comparing teachers, expressing concerns about classroom programs that are designed by our teachers, or for criticizing others. These types of actions are considered cyber bullying and are incredibly hurtful to the teachers and staff members. Like with any situation that is challenging, if you have a concern, please email the teacher or set up a meeting to discuss your concerns. Describing your child's teacher in a derogatory way on social media or with a small group of posters is hurtful and it damages our commitment to family partnerships. When you post online or in a text chain, assume that everyone can read it. Teachers are invited to grade level Facebook groups, even if they do not accept the invitation, please communicate as though he or she were present. Let's deepen our partnerships by committing to communicate respectfully about and with each other!

No self-promotion of businesses, unless you are directly answering a question of another poster and you email that individual directly. Your business info may also be included in a brief signature line attached to your email. Please do not abuse this privilege.

If you see a posting which you think falls outside any of these guidelines, simply hit delete and know that the moderator will be responsible for following up with that individual privately.

Although we respectfully request that information discussed within this group remain within the WISH community, please note that we cannot guarantee that information will remain private. This group is moderated by volunteers and not by the WISH administration.

A WISH Community Approach to Digital Citizenship

Our WISH students are part of a generation of "digital natives," and especially with 1:1 Chromebook devices, our focus on digital citizenship at every grade level is a priority in our classrooms. We want students to be responsible digital citizens who know how to harness the learning potential of digital media in a world that is connected 24/7 safely, effectively, ethically and respectfully.

As parents, guardians, caregivers, we set an example for our children and need to be able to model good digital citizenship. The truth is, as we're navigating this unfamiliar territory that is very different than when we grew up, or even from just five years ago, we don't always get it right. WISH families are invited to connect in a variety of ways (you see the links for the social media forums towards the end of the WISH Wise Weekly), and we value these ways of interacting with one another. These are great tools for building our sense of community and sharing information and experiences. But posting online by adults can also have negative consequences, the same as it sometimes does for our children.

We'd like to remind you to please take a moment to think before you post, and remember that even in these "private" forums as well as with text messages, nothing that is posted digitally is truly private. When you post something about another individual, or a group of people, think about how it would feel if they were to read your post. Just as we'd like to empower our scholars to make smart, responsible, and respectful decisions when using media, and understand the ethical consequences behind the decisions they make online, we'd like to remind all community members to set that example.