October: Social Media Trends: What Parents Need to Know

PARENT AWARENESS FLYER • GRADES 9-12 • 2026–2027

WHAT FAMILIES SHOULD KNOW

Public posts, private stories, anonymous accounts, and AI-generated content can affect safety and reputation.

WARNING SIGNS TO RECOGNIZE

• Threatening or discriminatory posts

• Intense stress tied to online feedback

• Impersonation or fake accounts

TRY THESE CONVERSATION STARTERS

“How do algorithms influence what you see?”

“Could this post affect a future opportunity?”

“What is your plan if someone impersonates you?”

THREE PRACTICAL STEPS

• Review privacy, security, and location controls.

• Discuss reporting threats and harassment.

• Build a realistic device and sleep routine.

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG: Stay calm, support your child, save relevant messages or links (do not forward intimate images), and report urgent threats to law enforcement. Report suspected child sexual exploitation at **report.cybertip.org**. For immediate danger, call 911.

Family resources: missingkids.org/netsmartz | commonsensemedia.org | fbi.gov