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SOCIAL NETWORKING

Most individuals that are on the Internet are into some form of social networking. Once upon a time, people were bound to interacting within their local area. The Internet, however, has made the prospect of sharing every second of your life with others a new way of life. Unfortunately you do not always know who you are sharing all of those moments with. Potential employers now use the Internet as a tool. Employers not only Google candidates to check backgrounds, but they have started looking to Facebook, Myspace, and Twitter (along with a few other sites) to screen potential employees. Be aware of your profile and online language as these things reflect character. If you have a profile picture that is risqué or inappropriate in any way, you've probably had your resume recycled a couple dozen times. If you use foul language, you may have just talked yourself out of a new job without even realizing it. Students will undoubtedly be under scrutiny in the future as trends grow and they eventually take on the role of working adults. Even before graduation they may see the practice extend to scholarships, as selection committees start employing the same practices. As information becomes more free and universal, so do the caveats of using technology. It is important that we model responsible digital citizenship in our own lives, and encourage students to do the same.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND TRAINING

*Acuity Training for Middle School September 28th and 30th.
*Interactive white board setup finishing up soon.
*If you need help with software or technology I am an email away.

PRODUCTIVITY TIP #5

Papers take long enough to write without worrying about format problems. A feature of Word that can help with longer papers is the ability to use styles. While working in Word simply select the format drop-down menu and choose "styles and formating." You can define size, font, color and attributes for any of the predefined styles that appear or you can create your own new style. While working, simply place the cursor in the paragraph to format and then click the style. Your paragraph will be formatted instantly. You can also change the style to apply to headers, footers, etc.

FEATURED SOFTWARE

Stellarium is an opensource project allowing for exploration of space. The program features accurate depictions of the night sky, allows for exploration of constellations in 12 different cultures, and even allows you to add in your own objects or create your own constellations. You can even zoom in on planets and their satellites. This program is not only great for science and history but also for literature, exploring stories told long ago in ancient lands. If you are into astronomy or you would like to somehow incorporate it into your teaching you may want to download and preview a copy. Visit the site at www.stellarium.org

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