Digital Citizenship Parent Video - Captions

(Upbeat music.)

While our youngest students are learning about online security,

Student, "On a game called Animal Jam, you can make your own account."

Their teachers are trying to stay current.

"My user name is usually my name, so now I'm going to switch it." (laughter)

For the most part teachers and parents are basically digital immigrants.

Parent, "I didn't grow up in the digital age. I don't know what to expect."

Narrator - while their children are digital natives.

Parent, "They don't know what a world without technology is." And, because the world of digital technology is growing so rapidly, Del Mar Union is going beyond the basics of a once popular slogan, "Stranger Danger." Stranger danger just doesn't say enough when it comes to protecting children online from people they think they know. Teacher, "We want to keep you safe, right? So, what if you got a text or an email and someone asked you the same thing? Can you give me your phone number? How might you respond to that? Sophie?"

"Who are you?!" (children's laughter)

Chris Delehanty has played several roles in Del Mar's history, making students safer and parents smarter digital citizens.

Delehanty, "I've been with Del Mar since 2004. I've been a substitute. I have been a student teacher. I've been a fifth-grade teacher, an Assistant Principal, I've been a Principal, and now I'm the Director of Technology for the district."

Narrator - As the Director of Technology, Delehanty brought the district's digital citizenship lessons out of the learning labs and into the classrooms. Delehanty, "We knew we wanted to do about three lessons because we didn't want to overwhelm our teachers; teachers have a lot going on. If you just said, "You're required to do 3 forty-five minute lessons. Go get it. It's just not going to happen. It's going to fall through. I think it's really important we support them both with the resources and time. But then, allow teachers to take some ownership and build on it on their own, because it shouldn't be so canned that it doesn't change."

Teacher, "And when we talk about digital citizenship, we are talking about how you could work together out in the digital world."

Narrator – While Del Mar's digital citizenship program is improving at a steady rate, it has already achieved some impressive accomplishments.

Delehanty explains some of the goals met this past school year. "We started with three lessons saying, 'These are going to be about half an hour to 45 minutes each. You have three months to do them.' And then we gave people time to do some planning. We gave people time to think about it, and we gave

them the resource up-front, so they had it there. So we tried to make it as easy as possible. If you are starting off as a teacher you're, you're trying to build something in your classroom. I would say go with those CommonSense Media resources and then I would say your next step is to ask, 'How can I pull in some pieces that are going to make it a little more engaging for students? A little more timely for what's going on right now?' One concern teachers have had is if we do a lesson that spans grade levels and do it year over year, is it going to be stale for kids? So as we were reviewing, going into our second-year, now that we've gotten them in, and they have some of the understanding, I think the conversation needs to shift to how does this integrate with our social emotional curriculum. CommonSense Media has a great building-block resource, but technology is constantly changing, so how can you make it meaningful for the kids in a moment? We are working on sort of wrapping up the year with an Appy Hour/Genius Bar event where we can have a couple of people, sort of local experts within our district you can talk to on how could you help parents with an Android phone and lock it down or put restrictions on it, or an iPhone and lock it down with restrictions. And then have a couple of groups that talk about CommonSense Media resources for the summer, apps or other things you might use."

"We thought we needed a more uniform program that our kids were going to get across the district."

"We got digital citizenship out of the tech lab, into our classrooms. Every classroom K through sixth did about three lessons and ah, we were able to give the big pat on the back to our teachers with the CommonSense certifications, so each school got certified, and the district got certified. So one of the interesting pieces of feedback we got was that parents didn't realize, quite as much, what was going on. Now when we built it in, we shared it through our LMS. You could easily share it just by sharing links to CommonSense Media, if you use CommonSense Media as your platform, and I would suggest that as a great starting point. The other thing with parents, we worked on how do we bring them in and have the conversation. And that came about in a couple different ways. We did it in Principal coffees in the morning. We did it in evening events.

As a district, "Screenagers" came up as a topic.

[From Screenagers video.] "I learned that you spend on average six-and-a-half hours a day looking at screens. As a doctor I decided I needed to understand the impact of all this screen time on kids. And as a mom I needed to know what to do."

Delehanty - So we as a district, had it at a number of sites, and then, as a district, we had a panel discussion and "Screenagers," [at the same event] and had probably the biggest response of any parent night we've had in the time I've been in Del Mar, and I've been there since '04, so we had a great response to that."

Narrator - As the Del Mar Union School District's digital citizenship continues to evolve, Delehanty says, he and his team have already learned some noteworthy lessons.

Delehanty - A lesson learned is making sure that the content we're providing for some of our primary teachers, or upper-grade teachers, depending on who's doing the planning, is appropriate to that grade level. So we've gone back and, based on feedback, we're looking at redesigning what is that continuum of lessons that we're going to ask teachers to teach in each grade level. Another lesson learned would be, we realized we gave the parent pieces but we didn't prompt teachers well enough, to let them know

that this would be a great resource that parents could use and we could extend the conversation. And I think that, just saying that way, teachers would've been much more inclined to share it.

Instead we just had a resource that sat there and they didn't see a need to share it. So you get into the new year, we're resetting at some point. We have kids who were getting older and, kind of, trying to spread their wings a little bit, getting some of that learning about what's going on in the digital world it is really an optimum time. So if we are able to build that in, that will be great next stop for our district.

I think the school and the school district has taken a great step, because they're preparing the children to be good digital, digital citizens - What does it mean? What is a good password? What are appropriate sites?How do you do different things? And the fact that there's a curriculum behind that, I think, is extremely helpful for parents because then they know what to expect.

Delehanty, "My pleasure. Yeah. Thank you!"