Flash-n-Flush
A 90-SECOND READ · K12 CYBER FORWARD

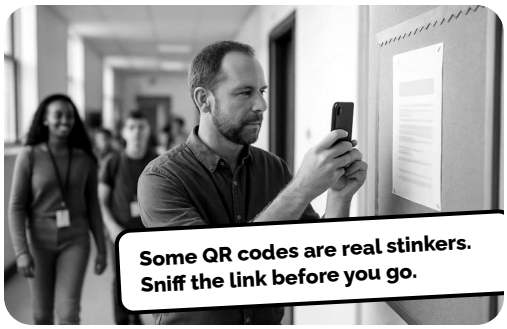
STAFF EDITION
September · Issue 3

SHARED BY
Your school

FRIDAY-NIGHT-LIGHTS EDITION

Think before you scan

QR codes are everywhere in September: game-day parking, spirit-wear orders, staff lunch sign-ups. A sticker slapped over the real code can send you to a fake payment or sign-in page in one tap.



1

Peek at the link before you open it

Most phone cameras show the web address before opening it. Check that it is your district's or booster club's real site, spelled right. Odd spelling, extra words or a shortened link means stop.

2

Feel for stickers

On posters, parking signs and lunch flyers, look for a code stuck on top of another code. If it's a sticker, don't scan it. Tell the front office so it comes down.

3

Never sign in from a QR code

A QR code that opens a 'sign in with your district account' page is a red flag. Use the app or bookmark you already have. Paying for something? Use the payment link the school officially sent.

Spot the scam

Printed flyer with QR code External

Flyer taped up in the staff lounge <pay-stadium-parking.example/staff>

STAFF GAME-DAY PARKING: scan to pay

Friday night lights are back. Staff parking passes are now digital only. Scan to pay $25 for the season. Spots go to the first 40 who pay. The payment page will ask you to sign in with your district email and password to confirm you're staff. New code: ignore the one underneath. Questions? Text (706) 555-0147.

Spot the scam: how many red flags can you find before you scan?

Red flags I found: ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯ ◯

Look for: surprise, urgency, secrecy, an unusual payment method, a sender or link you can't confirm.

FUN FACT

The FTC has warned that scammers cover the real QR codes on parking meters with QR codes of their own, sending drivers to look-alike payment pages that steal their information.

Source: FTC Consumer Alert: Scammers hide harmful links in QR codes to steal your information

Your 60-second move

Point your phone camera at any QR code and practice reading the link preview before you tap. That pause is the whole skill.

Who do I tell?

Name / ext. _____

Report channel _____

ANSWER

Five flags: a surprise 'digital only' rule, fake scarcity, a parking page that wants your district password, a code covering another code, and a random number to text. Safe move: don't scan. Check the athletics page or ask the front office, and report the flyer so it comes down today.

- A sudden 'digital only' change nobody announced.
- Fake scarcity pushes you to pay before you think.
- A parking page has no business asking for your district password.
- A code that covers another code is the classic QR sticker trick.
- A random phone number instead of the athletics office.

This QR is the real deal: a 2-minute lesson on fake sign-in pages

Free, no sign-in · k12cyberforward.com/learn