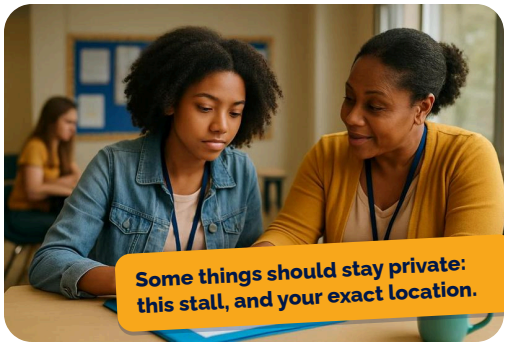
Flash-n-Flush
A 90-SECOND READ · K12 CYBER FORWARD
STUDENT EDITION · GRADES 6-12
March · Issue 5
SHARED BY
Your school

PRIVACY EDITION

Your location is need-to-know

Live location sharing, tagged photos and 'fun' quizzes can tell a stranger where you live and where you'll be. You can stay close to your friends without broadcasting your address to the internet.



1

Share location with people, not the public

Share live location only with family and a few close friends you know in real life. Check each app's location setting and switch it to 'only while using' or off.

2

Post later, not live

Post trip and game-day photos after you leave. Crop out house numbers, ID badges, school logos and street signs. A photo can reveal more than your caption does.

3

Skip quizzes that ask for real info

'Your first pet plus your street is your band name' posts collect answers to security questions. Keep your birthday, address, school and schedule off public profiles.

Spot the scam

Printed flyer with QR code External

Poster in the hallway <spiritmap-signup.example>

SPIRIT MAP: see where everyone is

Join the unofficial student spirit map. Scan, then allow location: always so friends can find you at games, parties and after school. Add your full name, grade and phone number to your pin. Profiles are public so new friends can find you too. Sponsored by a local business that gives prizes to the top check-ins.

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

Your school records come with privacy rights under a federal law called FERPA. When you turn 18, or start college at any age, those rights move from your parents to you.

Source: U.S. Department of Education Student Privacy: What is FERPA?

Your 60-second move

Open your phone's location settings and switch any app set to 'always' to 'while using' or off.

Who do I tell?

Name / ext. _____

Report channel _____

ANSWER

Five flags: not school-run, always-on location, your personal details, a public profile and an unnamed sponsor. Smart move: don't scan. Tell a teacher or the front office so the poster comes down, and share your location only with people you know in real life.

- 'Unofficial' means the school didn't approve it.
- Location 'always' tracks you even when the app is closed.
- Full name, grade and phone number make you easy to find and contact.
- A public profile means anyone, not just friends, can see it.
- An unnamed sponsor collecting student data is a big unknown.

Scan for a 2-minute lesson on protecting your identity and location
Free, no sign-in · k12cyberforward.com/learn