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Technology Times: March 2022

Great things are happening @Wacoisd with Technology Services

Instructional Technology



Digital Citizenship

In this new world we have all seen students and families suffer with lack of resources. Thankfully, there were so many funding sources that allowed us to "level the playing field" with regards to filling this digital resource gap for devices and internet access. However, as with anything new, there have been several challenges going from minimal resources to an abundance of resources.

Students and faculty both have been thrown into a new world of hybrid learning, remote only, in-person only, and sometimes a combination of all three learning environments. This heightens the need for promoting Digital Citizenship and teaching our students how to behave and become responsible online citizens. Common Sense Media Education has a full curriculum by grade level that you can use and incorporate into your lessons....

[Common Sense Education - Digital Citizenship Curriculum](#)

[Teacher Training and Ideas for Teacher Digital Citizenship](#)

Realizing that you are the only ones that have taught/administered through this time of digital transformation, we wanted to get your expertise and experience with these resources and how to best utilize them moving forward. Your feedback will help to mold the future of our technology resource deployment practices. Please take a moment to look at the above Digital Citizenship curriculum and let us know your thoughts by completing Google Form below.

Digital Citizenship Survey

Accessibility

Translate

High Contrast Mode

Aa Aa Aa

Jerry Allen

Jerry is using Smore newsletters to spread the word online.

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Did you know we have over 600 District Approved free applications that are available in the Self Service Portal on your students iPads?

Click here to see a list of all Free and Paid applications. [District Approved Applications](#)

The process to add new software or applications is called the Digital Review Process. The process begins with defining the gap in our instructional practices that the new software request is designed to fill. Keep in mind it must align with the districts goals. This is done through the use of the [Digital Review Flowchart](#) and the [Digital Review Rubric](#) in coordination with the Curriculum and Instruction Department. Once you have completed this initial review of purpose and scope, your campus administration will begin the process of working with Technology to ensure that all student and staff data are protected and safe.

This process will help us ensure that we are utilizing our funding to best align with the district goals, and to make sure the program is used with fidelity throughout the district.

Digital Review Flow Chart

Digital Review Rubric





If you are looking for a way to enhance your technical skills, we have partnered with TCEA to provide ALL Waco ISD faculty and staff with the following online/on-demand trainings as well:



- Google Level 1: TCEA's Google Level 1 course assists educators in earning their Google Educator Level 1 certification. Upon completion, you will earn the TCEA Google Educator Level 1 Certification which will prepare participants to successfully pass the Google Educator Level 1 exam (certification exam cost not included).
- Google Level 2: The purpose of this program is to assist educators in earning their Google Educator Level 2 certification. Participants who successfully complete the certification requirements will earn the TCEA Google Educator Level 2 Certification. They will also be prepared to pursue the Google Educator Level 2 Certification (certification exam cost not included).
- Canvas Educator: This straightforward, self-paced course provides you with a roadmap to conquer Canvas. You'll become the go-to expert and transform the way students are learning by putting them on the path you built specifically for them.
- Seesaw Educator: The focus of this online course is to assist you in learning to use Seesaw and adapt strategies for your own use in the classroom. This is a basic level course and anyone wanting to build their capacity in Seesaw should sign up.
- Seesaw Content Creator: This online, self-paced course offers instruction, ideas, and strategies on how to deepen your implementation of Seesaw. It assumes that you already know the basics of Seesaw, but are now wanting to expand your learning and your usage of the program in order to enhance the daily experiences of teachers and students. This course is framed to support your blended learning efforts with the Seesaw learning management system.
- Remote Learning Educator Certification: This robust, self-paced course provides you with multiple ways to facilitate remote learning based on research-based instructional strategies in order for you to provide an exceptional educational experience for your students.
- The Chromebook Educator: This straightforward, self-paced course provides you with guided support to clarify using a Chromebook in your classrooms. You'll become fluent in using a Chromebook for your classroom and leave with unique ideas and techniques for use with your students. *Sign up for our Chromebook Educator Training through TCEA and when you complete the course, we will assign you a NEW Lenovo 300E 2-in-1 Chromebook to use in your classroom. Once you complete the training, simply put in a work order and attach your TCEA Certification. Make sure to choose the category "Chromebook Educator Program"*

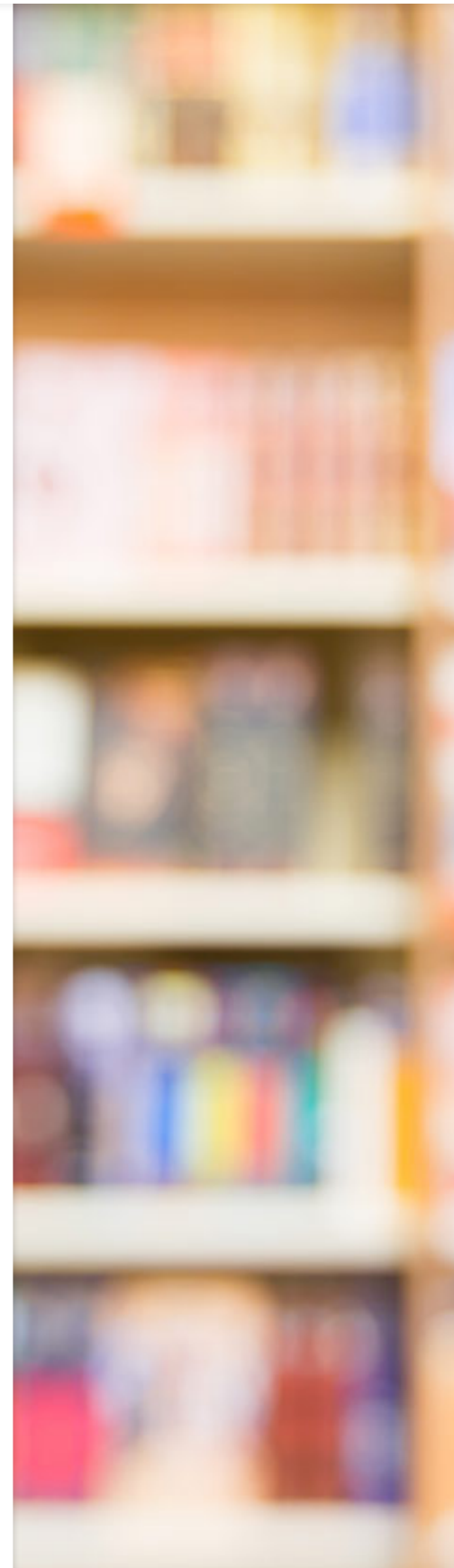
Please sign up for the training by clicking on the following link:

https://bit.ly/WISD_TCEA_Training

Operational Technology

Need Internet Access???

Waco ISD has partnered with T-Mobile to provide ALL faculty, ALL staff, and ALL students with hot spots that provide cellular internet access to





Simply complete the following form and one will be assigned to you for educational use. This can be used for all educational needs for you to provide or receive instruction.

[Waco ISD: Internet Device Request](#)

Testing season and student devices

Testing "season" is here! All student windows, Chromebooks and iPads should already have the testing app available. Do you have a windows device that is still missing the test app? The quickest way to get the testing app is to download it yourself...

You can go to helpdesk.wacoisd.org

- Login with your username and password
- Hit the blue "Want Software" button (top right)
- Click on TXSecureBrowser 14.0 in the list
- Hit install

Give it a few minutes to install in the background...

If you still have an issue, please enter the standard work order and we will get the software to the device for you.

See below if you need additional help or information.

Need information or help?

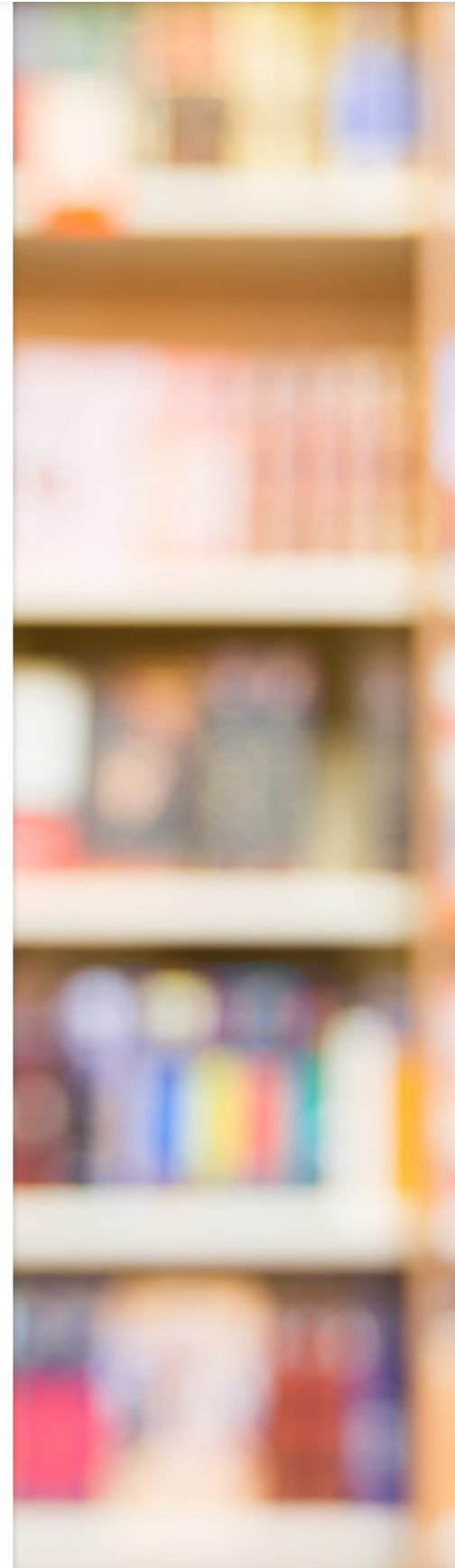
Here is a list of Technology Resources available to you.

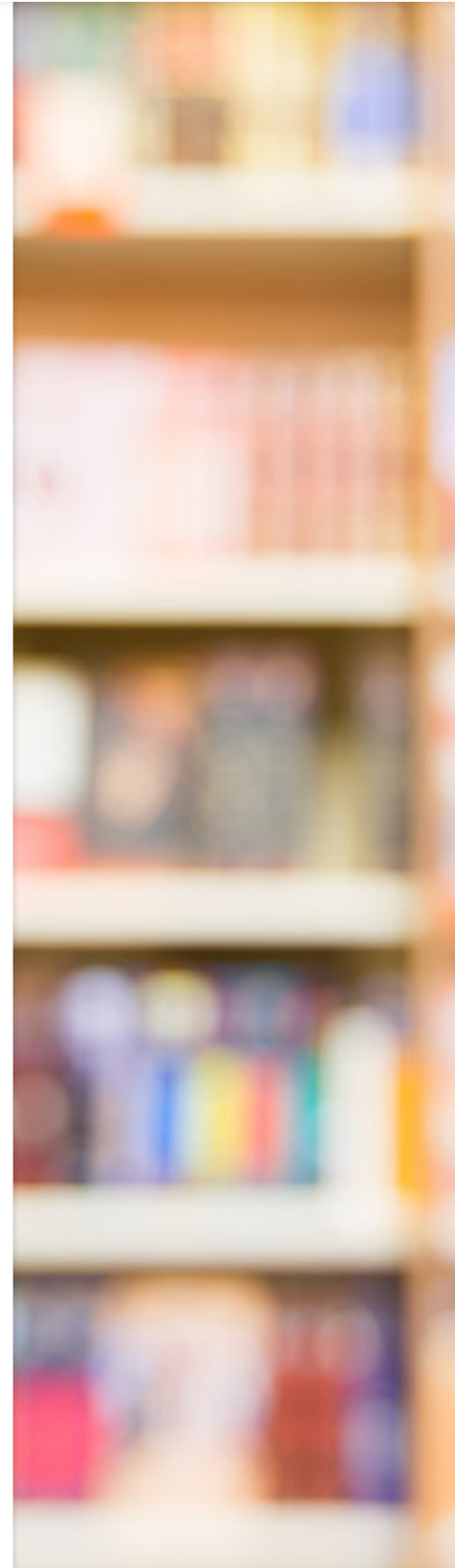
- [Technology Website](#) - FAQ's, tips, tutorials, documentation and contact information.
- Helpdesk Phone support - 254-755-9599 – You can reach out to get answers to your questions and for issues that can be resolved remotely.
- [Email helpdesk](#) - Get answers to questions.
- [Helpdesk ticketing system](#) - Enter a work order for repairs, to receive quotes and to download software

Waco ISD Helpdesk

Student Technical Support

Cybersecurity Reminders!!!





How To Report Phishing

The Federal Trade Commission has published the following article about Phishing and how to report it.

Scammers use email or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. But there are several things you can do to protect yourself.

- [How To Recognize Phishing](#)
- [How To Protect Yourself From Phishing Attacks](#)
- [What To Do if You Suspect a Phishing Attack](#)
- [What To Do if You Responded to a Phishing Email](#)
- [How To Report Phishing](#)

How To Recognize Phishing

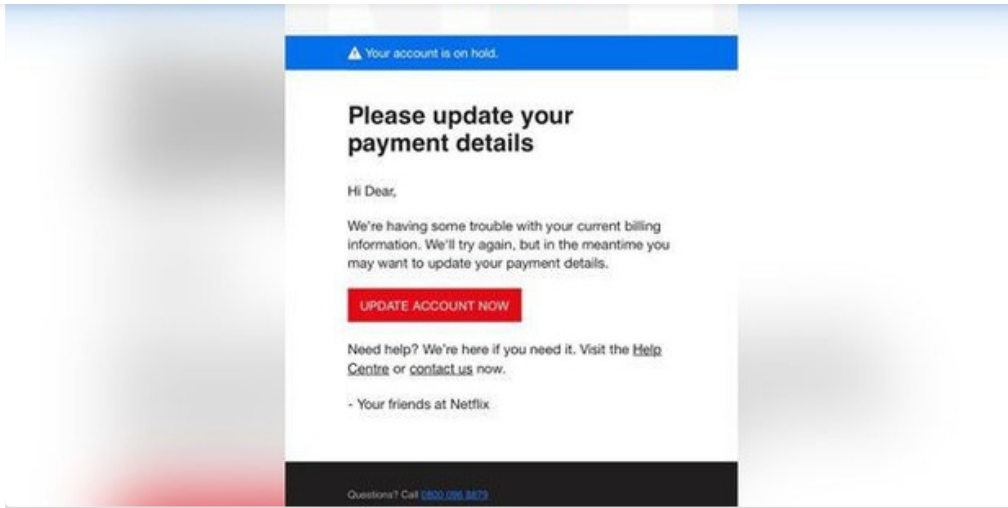
Scammers use email or text messages to trick you into giving them your personal information. They may try to steal your passwords, account numbers, or Social Security numbers. If they get that information, they could gain access to your email, bank, or other accounts. Scammers launch thousands of phishing attacks like these every day – and they're often successful. Scammers often update their tactics, but there are some signs that will help you recognize a phishing email or text message.

Phishing emails and text messages may look like they're from a company you know or trust. They may look like they're from a bank, a credit card company, a social networking site, an online payment website or app, or an online store.

Phishing emails and text messages often tell a story to trick you into clicking on a link or opening an attachment. They may

- say they've noticed some suspicious activity or log-in attempts
- claim there's a problem with your account or your payment information
- say you must confirm some personal information
- include a [fake invoice](#)
- want you to click on a link to make a payment
- say you're eligible to register for a [government](#) refund
- offer a coupon for free stuff

Here's a real world example of a phishing email.



Imagine you saw this in your inbox. **Do you see any signs that it's a scam?** Let's take a look.

- The email looks like it's from a company you may know and trust: Netflix. It even uses a Netflix logo and header.
- The email says your account is on hold because of a billing problem.
- The email has a generic greeting, "Hi Dear." If you have an account with the business, it probably wouldn't use a generic greeting like this.
- The email invites you to click on a link to update your payment details.

While, at a glance, this email might look real, it's not. The scammers who send emails like this one do not have anything to do with the companies they pretend to be. Phishing emails can have real consequences for people who give scammers their information. And they can harm the reputation of the companies they're spoofing.

How To Protect Yourself From Phishing Attacks

Your email spam filters may keep many phishing emails out of your inbox. But scammers are always trying to outsmart spam filters, so it's a good idea to add extra layers of protection. Here are four steps you can take today to protect yourself from phishing attacks.

Four Steps To Protect Yourself From Phishing

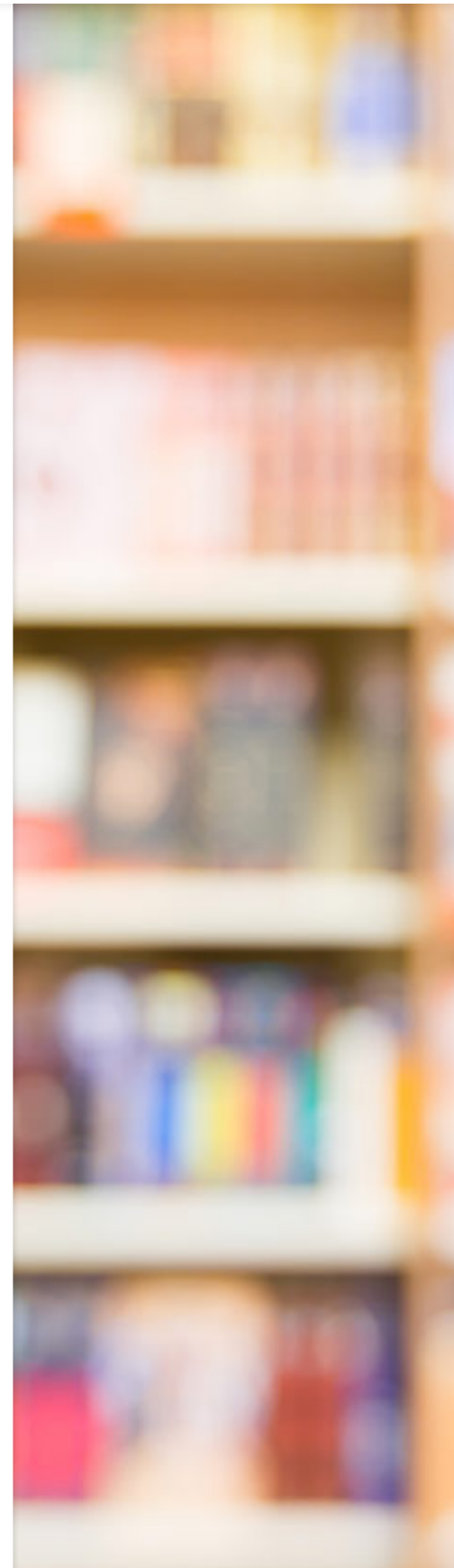
- 1. Protect your computer by using security software.** Set the [software to update automatically](#) so it can deal with any new security threats.
- 2. Protect your mobile phone by setting software to update automatically.** These updates could give you critical protection against security threats.
- 3. Protect your accounts by using multi-factor authentication.** Some accounts offer extra security by requiring two or more credentials to log in to your account. This is called multi-factor authentication. The additional credentials you need to log in to your account fall into two categories:
 - Something you have — like a passcode you get via an authentication app or a security key.
 - Something you are — like a scan of your fingerprint, your retina, or your face.

Multi-factor authentication makes it harder for scammers to log in to your accounts if they do get your username and password.

- 4. Protect your data by backing it up.** [Back up your data](#) and make sure those backups aren't connected to your home network. You can copy your computer files to an external hard drive or cloud storage. Back up the data on your phone, too.

What To Do if You Suspect a Phishing Attack

If you get an email or a text message that asks you to click on a link or open an attachment, answer this question: **Do I have an account with the company or know the person that contacted me?**





- If the answer is "Yes," contact the company using a phone number or website you know is real. Not the information in the email. Attachments and links can install harmful malware.

What To Do if You Responded to a Phishing Email

If you think a scammer has your information, like your Social Security, credit card, or bank account number, go to [IdentityTheft.gov](https://www.fbi.gov/identitytheft/gov). There you'll see the specific steps to take based on the information that you lost.



Waco ISD Technology Services

112 South 6th Street, Waco, TX, ... helpdesk@wacoisd.org
 (254) 755-9599 wacoisd.org



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Communicate quickly and effectively with interactive newsletters.

Smore empowers educators to connect with their community, streamline school communications, and increase engagement.

Create a newsletter

← It's awesome and free!

