YOUTH PERSPECTIVES ON
TECH IN SCHOOLS

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THE PROJECTS

YOUTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

SAFETY (BULLYING, MEANNESS AND CRUELTY & DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP)

INFORMATION QUALITY

PRIVACY
THE STUDY

- FEBRUARY - AUGUST 2013.
- 203 PARTICIPANTS
- GREATER BOSTON AREA, CHICAGO, GREENSBORO (NORTH CAROLINA), LOS ANGELES, AND SANTA BARBARA.
- EACH FOCUS GROUP LASTED 90 MINUTES, INCLUDING THE 15-MINUTE QUESTIONNAIRE, CONSISTING OF 20 MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS AND ONE OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE.
- PARTICIPANTS RANGED IN AGE FROM 11 TO 19.
1. Teen internet use is becoming increasingly mobile.

2. Teens are diversifying their social media portfolios.

3. Teens (like adults) are sharing more about themselves on social media profiles.

4. Privacy norms vary by platform.

5. Network size and composition matter in important ways.
6 **TEENS’ “SOCIAL PRIVACY” ONLINE IS PARAMOUNT.**

7 **ADVERTISERS + OTHER THIRD-PARTIES ARE NOT TOP OF MIND.**

8 **PARENTS EXPRESS A WIDE RANGE OF CONCERNS.**

9 **MANY PARENTS SAY THEY ARE ACTING ON THEIR CONCERNS.**

10 **TEENS ARE TURNING TO PEERS AND PARENTS (BUT RARELY TEACHERS) FOR PRIVACY ADVICE.**
HIGHLIGHTS FROM FOCUS GROUPS

Despite initiatives to bring tablets to districts, youth prefer new laptops to tablets.

Youth object to blocking and filtering in schools, but many have developed workarounds.

Youth have mixed feelings about forming relationships with teachers via social media.
FEMALE (AGE 13): “IT’S GOOD TO HAVE IPADS, BUT I DON’T THINK IT’S SOMETHING NECESSARY. I WOULD RATHER HAVE A LAPTOP CART, WHERE YOU CAN SIGN ONE OUT AND TAKE IT HOME.”

FEMALE (AGE 13): “I JUST DON’T LIKE TYPING ON AN IPAD. SOME WEBSITES, YOU CAN’T ACCESS ON AN IPAD.”
HIGHLIGHTS FROM FOCUS GROUPS

DESPITE INITIATIVES TO BRING TABLETS TO DISTRICTS, YOUTH PREFER NEW LAPTOPS TO TABLETS.

YOUTH OBJECT TO BLOCKING AND FILTERING IN SCHOOLS, BUT MANY HAVE DEVELOPED WORKAROUNDS.

YOUTH HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT FORMING RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS VIA SOCIAL MEDIA.
MALE (AGE 13): “Often, school websites that we have to use for homework are blocked... like, Khan Academy, which we use for math, ends up getting blocked because it uses Facebook to log in.”

FEMALE (AGE 19): “A lot of things in this school that are supposed to be blocked from everyone... if the teachers find out how to unblock it, it’s by students.”
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YOUTH HAVE MIXED FEELINGS ABOUT FORMING RELATIONSHIPS WITH TEACHERS VIA SOCIAL MEDIA.
FEMALE (AGE 14): “I THINK I WOULDN’T WANT TO BE FRIENDS WITH MY TEACHERS ONLINE...I FEEL LIKE IF THEY SAW MY FACEBOOK, THEY WOULD THINK DIFFERENTLY OF ME. AND THAT WOULD PROBABLY BE KIND OF UNCOMFORTABLE.”

FEMALE (AGE 14): “I WANT TO FRIEND [MY TEACHERS] RIGHT ON GRADUATION.”
THANK YOU

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