Using Social Media to Meet the Needs of Parents

It Comes Down to One Thing Show what you know.

- Share your expertise
- Tell your story
- Pass along something from a friend
- Create a How–To
- Talk about a complex decision you face

How Does Sharing Help Parents

- Information can provide OPTIONS
- Stories can provide ENCOURAGEMENT
- Shared experiences provide CONNECTION
- Interaction can provide RELATIONSHIP

This leads up to an important question...

Are we really talking about the internet yet?

What Social Media Users Want

- Options
- Encouragement
- Connection
- Relationship

Where have we heard this before?

What You Can Provide

- As you give parents options and encouragement, they will begin to trust you.
- As you continue to build a relationship with parents, they will look to you as a guide.
- If parents see you as a trusted person, they will include you in their community.

The Three Questions

- 1. Where do I start to help parents?
- 2. How do I best use my time to help parents?
- 3. How does everything I do work to help parents?

The Three Questions Again

- 1. Where do I start to help parents online?
- 2. How do I best use my time to help parents online?
- 3. How does everything I do work to help parents online?

The Three Questions III

- 1. Where do I start to help parents online with social media?
- 2. How do I best use my time to help parents online with social media?
- 3. How does everything I do work to help parents online with social media?

Where Do You Go to Find Info?

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Get On Google

- The easiest way to get on Google is to create a website.
- Blogger.com and Wordpress.com are FREE and easy to use.
- Your organization may already have a website. Use it!
- Content, content, content.

Wordpress.com/Blogger.com

- Very easy to use.
- Website in minutes.
- Blogger.com gets you on Google instantly.
- Provides a place to provide detailed information.
- A great platform to tell stories.
- Useful for sharing research information.*
- Provides a place for you and others to link to your information.

Getting on Google Is Not Enough

- Information is only as useful as the number of people that will use it.
- The issue is not a lack of information in many cases, but the sheer volume of it.
- You cannot search for integrity on the internet – people want someone to help guide them to the information they need.

Twitter.com



Done

Using Twitter

- Good for quick conversations. (Encouragement and Relationship)
- Good for broadcasting information to millions of people very quickly. (Options)
 - Examples include...
- Good for sharing links to useful websites. (Encouragement and Options)
- As you gain followers, you form a group of people that are very interested in what you are saying (Connection)

Facebook.com

| Welcome to Facebook - Mozilla Firefox | | | |
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Using Facebook

- Good for sharing experiences with others. (Encouragement and Connection)
- Allows you to attach video, links to other sites, pictures and documents. (All)
- Allows you to form groups easily. (Connection)
- The quality of what you provide can be easily measured. (Trust)
 - The Like Button is your new best friend.
 - Comments for others give you feedback.

LinkedIn

| 🥹 LinkedIn Relationships Matter - Mozilla Firefox | | | | | | | |
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Using LinkedIn

- Good for connecting with professionals. (Connection)
- Not usually blocked at the workplace.
 (Options)
- Can connect professionals with parents directly. (Connection)
- LinkedIn is perceived as being more business oriented. (Trust)

Putting It All Together

- Website: <u>Delaware School of the Deaf</u>
- Twitter: <u>Delaware Statewide Programs</u>
- Facebook: <u>Delaware Statewide on Facebook</u>