

# Penn Elementary Advisory Council Minutes

October 16, 2025

6:00~7:00 pm

Erica Fitzgerald, Chairperson  
Waseem Sheikh, Vice Chairperson  
Missy Gogel, Secretary

## Internet Safety – Det. Choi & Sgt. Miranda

Every device can get online via wi-fi... computer, tablets, cell phones, laptops, gaming systems  
Children are being exploited younger and earlier than we think.

Access goes both ways – when children have access to everything online, everyone online has access to your child.

1 in 5 children are being targeted for sextortion in the US.

When a child sends a photo, location data is packaged along with the photo

### Tips for keeping kids safe online

- Turn off location data services on social media and online gaming apps
- If something happens, do **not** delete any of the messages or images. Investigators will need them to find the predators.
- Consider no cell phone access
- Delay providing their own cellphone until teenage years
- Provide limited access to computer and tablets (with child settings/restrictions)
- Have rules on when they can access certain devices (certain hours or location)
- Consider a parental control app (many available)
- Consider a child-specific cell phone (i.e. Bark phone)
- Limit access to online devices
- Have full access to their devices (know the passcode)
- Monitor their use
- Know who their friends are
- If you don't know your child's friend and their parents, don't let them stay overnight
- Have your child's device location shared with you
- Remind them YOU are the parent, YOU bought the device, and YOU can take it away if necessary

\*\*Watch for signs of isolation, device anxiety, and depression

## Division Update

Planning for new strategic plan called Vision 2030

Elementary:

We're in year 2 of implementing Virginia Literacy Act (VLA)  
VALLSS testing extended to 4-5 if they didn't pass the SOL