

December 3, 2012

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- Lafesa Killian
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- Stephanie Rogers
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- Pearl Minko
Member
- Natasha Moe
Member
- Tiffany Winfrey
Member

“Intelligence plus character-that is the goal of true education.”

— Martin Luther King Jr.

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Parent Page



Parent Involvement Committee

The first meeting of the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) went very well. The parents enjoyed the light dinner we had and the atmosphere in the room was positive. All of our parents are ready to work with the staff to ensure that we provide the best support we can for the students!

It was really emphasized that the staff here is ready to assist the parents in this initiative; however, the parents will take the lead and keep it moving forward. Our parents have stated their commitment to monthly meetings of the

committee and we are excited to see where this year is going to take us.

Officers will be selected at the next meeting of the PIC on December 18th at 6:00 PM. If you are interested in being an officer on the committee (President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer), you can contact Mrs. Cameron at 854.2490 or cameron@bascs.org with your name and the position for which you seek consideration.

If any parent was unable to attend the first meeting, we welcome you at any

time to join the PIC as your schedule permits.

We thank all of our parents for your commitment and dedication to your children and the Buffalo Academy of Science!



**First meeting of the PIC
November 27, 2012**

Literacy is Key

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (2000), 87% of students who reported reading for fun on their own time once a month or more performed at the Proficient level [on state-wide, standardized assessments], while students who never or hardly ever read for fun performed at the Basic level.

Students who read for fun every day scored the highest.

Suggestion: Show your children that reading can be a fun and interesting past time. Instead of watching an interesting television show, encourage them to read an interesting book. Take your

children to the library to show them the wide range of reading materials available to them. It is important the children see reading as more than just something that is done for school.

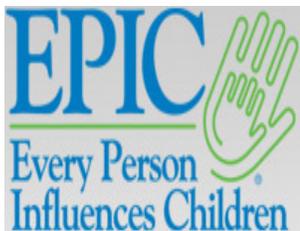




Internet safety practices are important to keep all of our children safe.

Visit www.fosi.org to find out more information about Internet safety, or to download FOSI's Internet Safety Contract.

BASCS Staff Support:
Mr. Ersoy, Director
Mrs. Gillison, Guidance
Mrs. Cameron, Outreach
Mr. Cieslik, HS Social Studies
Mrs. Wilczak, HS ELA



Visit EPIC at <http://www.epicforchildren.org>

Top 10 Internet Safety Tips for Parents

In this digital age, it is important to protect our children from dangers—both tangible and virtual. With increased access to information, and the ever-changing world of technology, it is up to parents to ensure that our children can take advantage of the benefits, while avoiding the downfalls.

The following safety tips were taken from the Family Online Safety Institute website (<http://www.fosi.org>):

- 1) Talk with your child about Internet safety as soon as he/she begins using the Internet. It is never too early to start discussing the importance of being a good digital citizen.
- 2) Use age-appropriate filtering, blocking and monitoring software on all Internet-enabled devices used by your child, including laptops, wireless phones

and video games.

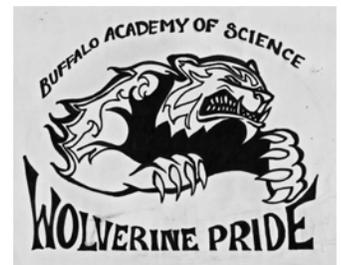
- 3) Stay involved in your child's online world by setting limits on his/her "screen time" and monitoring who your child is communicating with online. Get to know the web sites your child is visiting and educate yourself about your child's online activities.
- 4) Review FOSI's Internet Safety Contract with your family members and consider having all family members sign the agreement.
- 5) Explain to your child that he/she should never give out personally identifiable information online. For example, your child should understand that he/she should not post detailed information about his/her whereabouts.
- 6) Make sure your child knows never to meet someone they met

online face-to-face without first talking with you about the situation.

- 7) Tell your child to never share their passwords with anyone, including friends.
- 8) Explain the consequences of posting inappropriate material online. For example, a child's reputation can be impacted by a status entry or an image that is shared.
- 9) Monitor your child's mobile phone usage and review text messages sent and received, including images downloaded and uploaded.
- 10) Educate yourself on the latest threats facing kids online (e.g., cyberbullying, sexting, etc.) and arm yourself with information that will allow you to talk to your child about being a good digital citizen.



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Parent Resources

Every Person Influences Children (EPIC) is a national not-for-profit organization whose mission is helping families, schools, and communities raise children to become responsible and capable adults.

To achieve its mission, EPIC combines an award-winning parenting program with a school-based character education curriculum and offers leadership training in several areas.

EPIC Parent Information & Resource Centers (PIRCs) provide learning experiences for parents to help their children become all they can be. PIRC's offer parenting workshops, trainings, and resources to help children succeed in school and in life.

EPIC National Center for Parenting & Character Education is located at 1000 Main Street in

Buffalo, New York. EPIC can be reached at 716.332.4101 for more information. Additional information can also be found at:

Nationalinfo@epicforchildren.org