

The facts of facebook

When social networking effects discipline at school

A teacher's worst nightmare is to be fired. Most of them never would imagine being fired because of the famous Facebook.

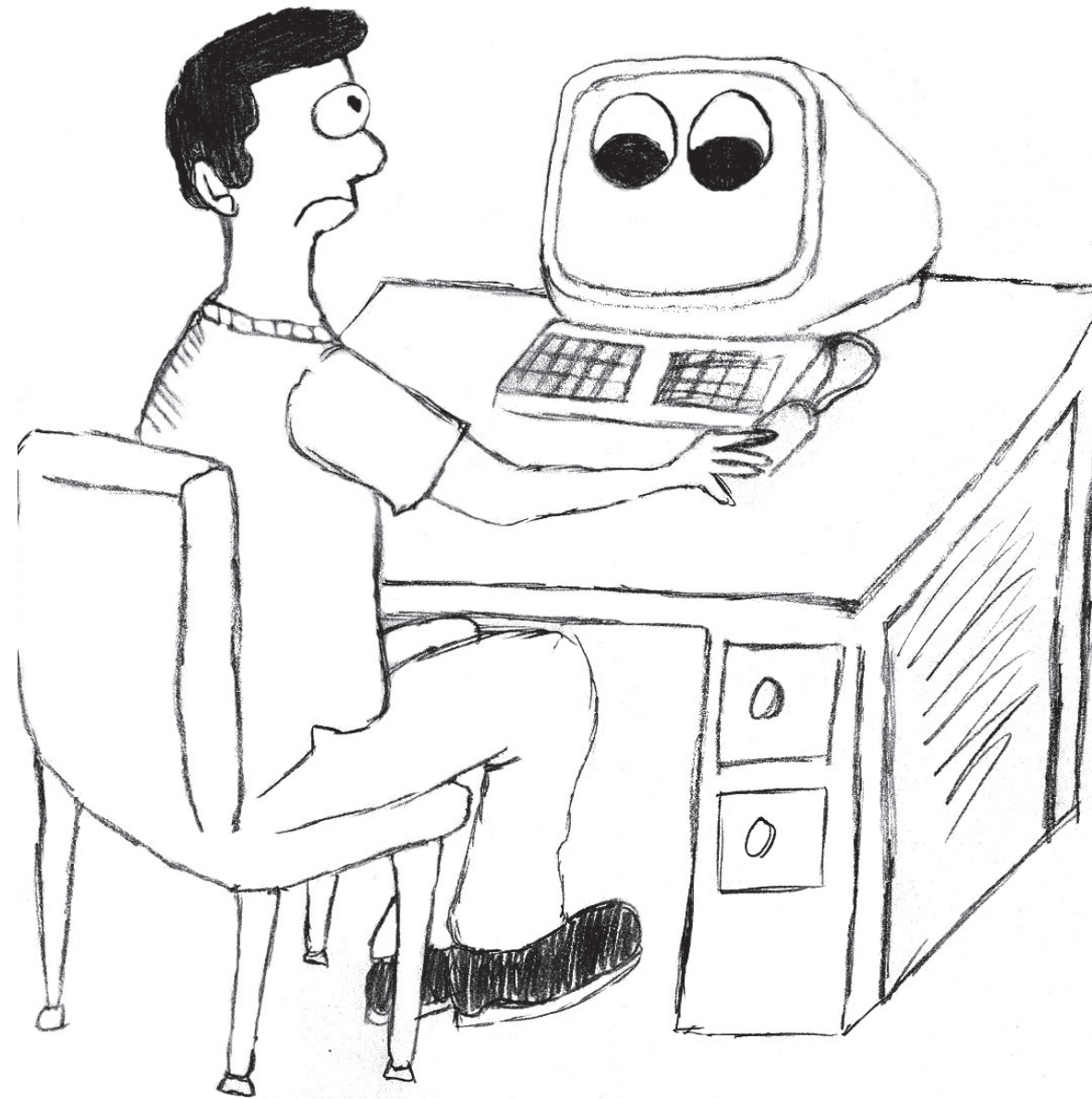
In recent news, teachers throughout the states have gotten fired or either asked to resign from his or her position due to what they have posted on online. According to AOL Online, Massachusetts high school teacher June Talvitie-Siple learned the hard way that a Facebook wall is probably not the best place to put down the students and parents of her community. She described the students and staff as "germ bags," "arrogant" and "snobby" through a comment to one of her friends on her own page. She never thought that the students of some parents would see those hateful words.

While she was on vacation overseas, the superintendents ask her to resign through e-mail. She did. As a result to that, she now states that she is sorry for the comments she posted and hopes that students see just how easily things are seen online, even if you are not friends with someone. Thankfully, nothing like this has ever happened at PHS. But consider this, adults seeking work here, which put in an application, are looked over to see what kind of person they are. "We look for someone who will be able to relate to the students and staff here at PHS, we do look over their background information," said Principal Casey Brewster. Background information does not just mean criminal records and previous jobs that they may have held. Some schools and/or other businesses search online for the person who is seeking work with their corporation. Sometimes online social media such as Facebook can make or break you. The Paoli School Corporation has looked at Facebook accounts before. When people place information online, they wonder who can see their information and if they may get in trouble. "If [the problem] is something that affects a student at school, we can take action," said Brewster. According to the

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Art by Gracie Dunn

Facebook and GPS scare users; alarm unnecessary

Global positioning systems (GPS) are becoming more and more popular. They are programs you can install in your computer to help track an individual's location.

GPS has become popular with phones such as the Verizon Blackberry and AT&T iPhone. An application has to be installed and purchased though to use this technology.

Websites such as peoplefinder.com can also track a person's location without even using an app. Facebook, MySpace and Twitter are examples of this.

Recently there has been talk that Facebook has a tracking system similar to these programs.

The catch is there is no way to turn it off.

This means anybody could find out exactly where you are accessing your Facebook. If you heard this rumor, do not be alarmed, it is false. That does not mean it is not impossible to track a person, however, through installed programs.

Most people think installing the GPS tracking on Facebook is a bad idea. For some people it could be.

"It takes away your privacy," said freshman Hannah Dooley.

The positive side is people would be able to find someone if they were in danger or lost.

"I think it's a safe way for parents to know where or what their kid is doing," said freshman Kyra Walton.

Most the time if someone is tracking another person, they will not know about it unless informed otherwise. Thankfully, there are programs that allow users to prevent others from tracking them, such as Mozilla FireFox. By installing this properly anyone can block these trackers. Facebook users are now safe from prying eyes.



Do you think that students should get into trouble for things they have posted on Facebook?



"If they are inappropriate things, or hurtful things, then yes."
Freshman Carli Smith



"No, not language stuff, but like the underage drinking pictures, yes."
Sophomore Justin Bowles



"No, because Facebook has nothing to do with school."
Sophomore Paige Radcliff



"No, it has nothing to do with school."
Senior Kylee Johnson



"Yes, what you say reflects on our school."
Junior Tyler Love



"No, what we do or say on Facebook should not affect what we do or say at school."
Sophomore Lindsay Harkness



"I think people should be smart and not do stupid things you could get into trouble for. If you are dumb enough to do the things, and put them on the internet, then yes, you should get into trouble."
Senior Caleb Andry