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EDUCATION

HDSB SAYS PARENTS NOTIFIED VIA STATEMENT OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Continued from page 1

self and putting it online, that's another."

Regarding the online safety of students accessing G Suite, HDSB Superintendent of Education Gord Truffen cites the Technology & You portion of the board website, which includes tools for on-line safety used in Halton classrooms.

"Digital citizenship is something we promote within our schools and teachers do that as well with students," he said.

But when it comes to being transparent to parents about the specific ins and outs of G Suite, Truffen says that responsibility falls on individual teachers.

"I think we would rely on teachers to communicate

that to parents," he said.

However, in a follow up email Oct. 15, the board's Manager of Communication Services Marnie Denton said, "All parents in the Halton District School Board receive a 'Statement of Personal Information' that clearly indicates the use of G Suite in our schools and therefore teachers are not responsible for communicating the use of these apps to parents."

"We prefer teachers use the G Suite application over third-party applications," she added.

And while Google provides a comprehensive template for schools to print out and distribute to parents regarding their child's use of G Suite, the Burlington dad

THE QUESTION: DO YOU KNOW HOW YOUR CHILD IS USING THEIR HDSB GOOGLE ACCOUNT? THE CONCLUSION: USE OF THIRD-PARTY APP BY YOUTH COULD LEAVE STUDENTS VULNERABLE, SAYS CYBER LAWYER

says he has never seen one.

G Suite offers students a number of core services, which include Gmail, Calendar, Contacts, Classroom, Drive, Docs, Forms, Groups, Sheets, Sites, Slides, Talk/Hangouts, Vault and Chrome Sync.

According to the G Suite school consent form, "user personal information collected in the core services is used only to provide the core services."

This is not, however, the case with any of the additional services available through the suite, including but not limited to Google Maps, Blogger, Info-

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