

Parents/Guardians and Staff,

During this eLearning time, some staff have been using Zoom to hold digital classrooms and meetings to stay in contact. As you may have seen in the media, a lot of scrutiny has been placed on Zoom around the world because of incidents where users did not secure their meetings correctly. There have been no reported incidents at LPCSC of this happening but these issues have happened globally as the user base of Zoom has increased.

To clear up some of the noise that you may have heard in the news, the term "Hacker" gets used often with these issues. Most incidents do not involve someone hacking but instead involves the host or someone who was invited to the meeting legitimately, posting that link on social media or some sort of public web forum. This unfortunately allows outside users to then know the web address of the meeting and any other information the person shared.

Zoom has responded and made changes to their platform over the last two weeks to force users, by default, to choose more secure options such as waiting rooms and password protected rooms. This was put in place to control the flow of users as well as hosts accidentally selecting the ability unknowingly to allow outside users into the conference.

Instructions that were sent to staff have been expanded to include how to control all aspects of the meeting to protect against outside users trying to gain access and in the event a user is let in that is outside of the intended audience, that they are unable to communicate and can be easily removed.

LPCSC IT department will continue to monitor this and other web applications for any other security based information and concerns.

Thank you,
Michael Walthour
Director of Technology
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