



## *OLTD 506 - Reflection on my Online Boundaries Paper*

OLTD 506 focused on social media, offering us an opportunity to learn about privacy and what has been done in order to protect students who venture online. We were also able to explore some of the positive and negative facets of online communication, and learn how to navigate through this ocean of uncertainty.

As my first evidence for this course, I chose my paper on Online Boundaries, and how to navigate them. I really enjoyed all the reflection and pondering I had to do in order to write it. I adopted the online world as an adult, and have always used caution when presenting my public persona; however, children who are born into this world do not have the same tools an adult has, nor the same regard for their own privacy. I found myself wondering about the origin of the often unfounded fear that parents have regarding the online world, and how to find a balance throughout it all. It was most interesting to research the cause and reason behind the often over-protective measures we find in some households and schools.

This paper covers the learning goal, **“Develop an understanding of social media and networking, functional context and constraints, employment considerations, professional ethics, privacy tensions and the B.C. legal context, as well as school policies and procedure.”**

Very often, teachers will avoid using the online world for fear that they will infringe on some of FOIPPA's policies. We are, however, living during a time of adjustment. People who know about protection of privacy and can navigate the online world are holding the flag ahead of everyone else. Every day, more and more teachers join the team and venture into online portals with their students, enriching their lives and their learning in the process. However, as this is all very new, we still lack a good way to reach children, on their own level, with honesty, humour and without fear-mongering. This paper made me realize this need, and it served as the seed for my final project on this course.