



Elk Grove Unified School District
Excellence by Design

NEWS RELEASE

Elizabeth Graswich
Director, Communications
Communications Dept.
(916) 686-7732 Office
(916) 799-9311 Cell
egraswic@egusd.net

For Immediate Release:

September 2, 2008

EGUSD announces Internet Safety Video Contest

The Elk Grove Unified School District, in collaboration with the U.S. Attorney's Office, are now accepting entries for the 2008 Internet Safety Video Contest. Students in grades 4-12 are invited to produce a video that promotes the safe and ethical use of the Internet.

The video contest is one component of Elk Grove Unified's Internet Safety Initiative. The Internet Safety Initiative includes a three-pronged approach to include educating staff, parents and students about cyberbullying, online predator strategies and other safety tips.

The 2008 Internet Safety Video Contest presents an opportunity to reinforce topics included in the Internet Safety Initiative while allowing students to express their creativity. Students can choose from four categories – PSA (public service announcement), School News & Events, Instructional/How To and Documentary. PSAs are limited to one minute; all other categories may not exceed three minutes. Video titles and credits are not included in the time limit. Entries must be submitted on mini-DV tape, CD-ROM or DVD in Quicktime, Windows Media Player or Real Player format. Entries will be judged on originality, technical components and clarity of the message. Winners will be notified by phone in November and awards will be given in three grade-level divisions – 4-6, 7-8 and 9-12 – at an awards ceremony on December 16, 2008.

The 2008 Internet Safety Video Contest is an innovative example of how Elk Grove Unified has taken the initiative to be a leader in educating others about the importance of internet safety. Building upon the success of cyber safety classes offered last year through the Elk Grove Adult and Community Education department and by making professional development classes about the Internet available to staff members, the district has launched a new Internet safety blog, **2webwatchers** at <http://2webwatchers.edublogs.org>. The new blog will be included in the district's Internet website, www.egusd.net, and in school newsletters. The online version includes an area where students, parents and staff can ask questions or post comments. The blog will be co-facilitated by the district's technology integration and web specialists, Gail Desler and Kathleen Watt.

To obtain entry materials on the Internet Safety Video Contest, visit <http://2webwatchers.edublogs.org>. If you have questions, please contact Gail Desler at gdesler@egusd.net.

###