Computer Security Awareness

- Introduction
- The Internet can be a hazardous place
- Many threats are avoidable
- Protecting LCS Networks

What is Computer Security?
Computer Security is the protection of computing systems and the data that they store or access.

Why is Computer Security Important?
Computer Security allows the Leon County Schools to carry out its mission by:
- Enabling people to carry out their jobs and education
- Supporting critical business process
- Protecting personal and sensitive information
- Awareness of The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) – a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.
- Storage of sensitive files – store only in secure areas; not of flash keys that can be lost and no security/encryption is used on the device.
- Beware of 'Phishing' – The activity of defrauding an online account holder of information by posing as a legitimate company.   Because SPAM/Phishing emails can take many forms and be written many different ways to get past SPAM blockers, it is always important to remember….never give your credentials to anyone. Not via email, the internet, or the phone.
- Password protection – Protect your password like your Social Security Number. Do not leave it laying around or give it to anyone.
    - Do not leave your workstation unattended. Lock your desktop (Ctrl+Alt+Del) or sign off when you need to be away.

Why do I need to learn about Computer Security? Isn't this just and I.T. problem?
Good Security Standards follow the "90 / 10" Rule:
- 10% of security safeguards are technical.
- 90% of security safeguards rely on the computer user ("You") to adhere to good computing practices.
    - Example: The lock on the door is the 10%. You remembering to lock the lock, checking to see if the door is closed, ensuring others do not prop the door open, keeping control of the keys, etc. is the 90%. You need both parts for effective security.

What Does This Mean for Me?
- This means that everyone who uses a computer or mobile device needs to understand how to keep their computer, device and data secure.
- Information Technology Security is **everyone's** responsibility!
- Employees/volunteers given access to our computer systems are responsible for familiarizing themselves and complying with all LCS policies and procedures relating to information security.

See the following link on the T&IS web site (Security Awareness), for information on the Computer Use Manual and LCS Security Policies & Procedures:
http://www.leonschools.net/Domain/84

Security Objectives
- Learn "good computing security practices".
- Incorporate these practices into your everyday routine.
- Report anything unusual.

The Internet can be a hazardous place:
- An unprotected computer can become infected or compromised within a few seconds after it is connected to the network.
- A compromised computer is a hazard to everyone else, too – not just to you.

Many cyber security threats are largely avoidable.

Some key steps that everyone can take include:
- Use good, cryptic passwords that can't be easily guessed – and keep your passwords secret.
- Don't click on unknown or unsolicited links or attachments, and don't download unknown files or programs onto your computer.
- To help reduce the risk, look for "https" in the URL before you enter any sensitive information or a password. (The "s" stands for "secure".)