

Grade 6 *Connect[ED]* Video Transcript

Characters:

Priya - Grade 6 student, reporter for The Vine

Anthony - Grade 6 student, reporter for The Vine

Mr. Solomon - Grade 4 teacher and supervisor of The Vine

Mayumi - Grade 6 student, had a "We Hate Mayumi" FaceSpace group built about her

Ms. Anderson - Grade 6 teacher and supervisor of the upcoming Grade 6 dance

Carlos - Grade 6 student, captured a photo of classmate Ashley when she flashed him during their web cam conversation, and then sent it out via cell phone

Herminder - Carlos's best friend

Scott - Grade 6 student, on the dance committee

Seema and Lucy - Grade 6 students, friends of Ashley

Faheem - Grade 6 student, has become addicted to his new video game

Julie and Duncan - Grade 6 students who created the hate site about Mayumi

Ashley - Grade 6 student who "flashed" Carlos during their web cam conversation; extremely embarrassed and mortified that the digital photo is being passed around

Part 1:

Black Screen With Text:

ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Tuesday

8:12 a.m.

Rose Vine Public School- Just Before 1st Bell

The camera passes students as they mill about at their lockers, etc., waiting for the 1st bell to ring:

Mayumi, wearing a hoodie, skulks in front of her locker, trying to be invisible.

Lucy takes her cell phone out of her bag as Seema looks on.

Carlos high-fives his best friend, Herminder, at his locker.

HERMINDER:

Carlos! Nice, pic.

CARLOS (*laughing*):

You got that right.

Faheem walks down the hall, staring at his handheld video game. Herminder notices him.

HERMINDER:

Yo, Faheem! Are you playing ball tonight, or what?

Faheem, without looking up, replies.

FAHEEM (*distracted*):

Can't make it. Trying to level up.

Carlos and Herminder share a look.

HERMINDER:

I swear, ever since he got that game, he doesn't do *anything* anymore.

They continue walking, and the camera focuses on Scott, who is putting up a poster announcing the Grade 6 dance.

SCOTT (*relieved*):

There. Last one.

THE VINE OFFICE, JUST BEFORE 1st BELL

Priya and Anthony are gathered around a computer looking at www.thevine.ca, specifically a page with the title, "Your Life Online." A video window is to the right of the story's running text, and four thumbnail photos are at the bottom of the page (these are the Grade 5 introspective videos starring Emily, Anthony, Jamie, and Priya).

MR. SOLOMON:

The deadline for the city's Junior Journalism Competition is this Friday. I think you should submit the video story you did last year in Grade 5 on Cyberbullying.

PRIYA:

You think so?

MR. SOLOMON (nodding):

You and Anthony gathered some great footage from the Rose Viners, and explored the types of decisions they face every day online. I especially liked the introspective videos at the end.

ANTHONY:

Me, too.

PRIYA:

Can I see them again? Grade 5 seems so long ago!

REVIEW OF GRADE 5 RESOURCE BEGINS

Anthony clicks the first folder: Emily. Her video begins to play. Once that is finished, we view Anthony's, then Jamie's, and finally Priya's.

GRADE 5 REVIEW ENDS

PRIYA:

Those videos *are* pretty good!

ANTHONY:

Yeah! And those situations were really tough, but thinking them through helped a lot.

Special Effect: 1st bell rings

MR. SOLOMON:

Time for class, guys. Meet me back here at lunch and we can look over the submission forms. Oh, and I also want to talk to you about getting started on a new story about Cyber Civics.

Priya and Anthony look at each other, confused.

ANTHONY:

Cyber civics? What's that?

CUT TO 3 VIDEOS of 3 students describing what they think the term "cyber civics" means.

We know what the cyber world is and what civics mean because you have studied it, now if you put those two words together to make the word cyber civics what do you think they would mean?

Student A: Being a good citizen online not sending bad emails to people or going on bad sites.

Student B: Being a person who promotes netiquette to the school or the community.

Student C: Being responsible online and encouraging others to be as well.

Student D: Like you know the rules and you should obey them for e.g. if you're online on MSN and you are talking to one of your friends and you just randomly say something impolite that's not really obeying the rules.

CUT BACK TO THE VINE OFFICE

PRIYA:

So, basically cyber civics is being a good online citizen, treating people with respect...that sort of thing.

ANTHONY (*nodding*):

And being good online community members.

MR. SOLOMON (*smiling*):

I think you both understand it.

PRIYA:

That sounds like a great story. I can't wait to start working on it.

MR. SOLOMON:

We'll talk about it at lunch. Better get to class.

The camera now focuses on Lucy and Seema. They are looking at something on Lucy's cell phone.

LUCY:

I can't believe Ashley did *that* on her web cam.

SEEMA (*concerned*):

How many people did Carlos send the pic to?

LUCY:

Everyone in the sixth grade with a cell phone.

SEEMA:

I would *not* want to be Ashley right now.

Special Effect: 2nd bell rings

HERMINDER:

Seriously, Carlos. How'd you get her to do it?

CARLOS (*cocky*):

It was nothing. Guess I'm good at persuading people to do what I want!

They walk through the Grade 6 classroom door (a sign indicates this).

MAYUMI:

Ms. Anderson, can I go to the bathroom?

MS. ANDERSON:

You're supposed to go before class, Mayumi.

MAYUMI (*pleading*):
I know, but it's an emergency. Please?

MS. ANDERSON (*sighing*):
Fine, Mayumi, but hurry up. We're reviewing last night's homework questions and I don't want you to miss anything.

MAYUMI:
Thank you!

MS. ANDERSON:
And take that hood off. You know it's not allowed in school.

MAYUMI:
Oh, sorry. Thanks.

Ms. Anderson closes the door and the camera follows Mayumi as she hurries down the now empty hallway, reluctantly pulling her hoodie down. She takes a quick look around to see if anyone is laughing at her and continues on her way toward the washroom. She pushes open the washroom door.

MAYUMI:
Hello? She opens all the stalls, one after the other, and finds them empty.

MAYUMI (*relieved*):
Good.

She enters the last stall and shuts the door. Camera angle changes to **BIRD'S EYE VIEW**.

Mayumi puts the toilet seat down and sits on it. She opens her backpack and retrieves her cell phone, plus a little piece of scrap paper. She punches in the number that's on the paper: **Kid Help Phone 1-800-668-6868** (close-up on the paper).

MAYUMI (*quietly*):
Hi. Um, I don't know what to do. (*pause*) Someone at school made a FaceSpace group about me. (*pause*) They called it "We Hate Mayumi." (*voice trembles*) They took photos off my profile and changed them all and wrote really bad comments about me. (*pause*) I don't know for sure, but I think it might be this girl named Julie and one of her friends. (*pause*) My parents?! No way. I'm too embarrassed. (*pause*) Okay, I'll try tonight. (*pause*) I'm at school. Look, I need to go. I'm missing class. (*pause*) Okay, I will. Thanks.

Mayumi hangs up and shoves her cell phone into her backpack. She washes her hands, stares at herself in the mirror, fixes her hair, sighs, and then leaves the bathroom. Camera follows her out the door as she heads toward her classroom.

Mayumi enters the classroom and quickly takes her seat beside Faheem. **OFFSCREEN**, we hear Ms. Anderson say, "Mayumi, we're on page 43, question two."

Camera focuses on Faheem at his desk. His math book is standing up on his desk and he's playing his handheld video game behind the book.

MS. ANDERSON:
Faheem! Put that game away or I will take it!

Faheem groans dramatically as he turns the game off and shoves it in his desk.

Part 2:

Black Screen With Text:
ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Tuesday
10:30 a.m.

ROSE VINE, MS. ANDERSON'S GRADE 6 CLASS

Special Effect: recess bell rings

Most of the students stream out. The camera closes in on Scott (the boy who put up the dance poster) packing up his books. He catches up with the two girls in front of him, Seema and Lucy.

SCOTT:
Hey, Seema, Lucy.

SEEMA:
Oh, hi, Scott.

LUCY:
Hey.

SCOTT:
Have you seen Ashley? She was supposed to help me put up posters for the dance this morning.

Seema and Lucy look at each other.

SEEMA:
She's at home.

SCOTT:
Why? Is she sick or something?

LUCY:
No, she doesn't want to show her face at school.

SCOTT (*puzzled*):
What? Why?

SEEMA:
Haven't you seen the photo?

Scott shakes his head. Lucy whips her cell phone out of her bag.

LUCY:
Carlos took...how should I say, a "risqué" photo of Ashley last night while they were talking on their web cams. He sent it out to everyone in class with a cell phone.

She shows Scott the photo.

SCOTT:
Whoa! Have you talked to her?

SEEMA:
Just before school started.

SCOTT:
How is she?

SEEMA:
Really upset and embarrassed. She feels awful.

CUT TO SPLIT SCREEN of Seema and Ashley on their cells. Ashley sits on her bed in pajamas.

ASHLEY (*distressed*):
I didn't think it was that big of a deal at the time.

SEEMA (*incredulous*):
You didn't?!

ASHLEY:

Not really. Carlos dared me, and you know how I can never turn down a dare.

SEEMA:

I guess so, but Ashley, so many people have seen it!

ASHLEY:

I know! People were texting me all night! I'm so embarrassed. And last night, Carlos said he wouldn't tell anyone what I did, and now he's gone and sent a photo - that I had no idea he was taking - to practically everyone in class. *(pause)* Oh no. What if someone posts it on FaceSpace or something? What if my parents see it?

SEEMA:

I hope not. *(pause)* But I guess *anyone* could see it now that it's out there! It could be around forever!

ASHLEY *(near tears)*:

I wanted to get my babysitting certificate this year. That photo could totally ruin everything.

CUT TO VIDEO of a real-life teen girl discussing what happened to her in a similar situation.

Knowing that someone's got a personal piece of you and who's exploiting you all over the place-It's sick and it's sad, just makes me mad thinking about it. That's when I started, like you know hiding and I didn't want an email anymore and I didn't have an email for awhile just because I didn't want to deal with it, I hid.

I was stuck in a spot that I couldn't get out of. And I was afraid to talk to someone because I didn't know how they'd react. What they would think of me. Be careful what you say on line. Be careful what you put on line. I say it because I don't want you to go through what I went through.

CUT BACK TO ROSE VINE, MS. ANDERSON'S GRADE 6 CLASS

SCOTT:

What is she going to do?

SEEMA:

We don't know. Like I said, she's pretty upset.

LUCY:

But she has to come back to school *some* day. She can't fake sick for the rest of the year.

Lucy is about to fold up her cell phone when Ms. Anderson's voice is heard off screen.

MS. ANDERSON:

What are the rules about no cell phones in the classroom? Lucy, hand it over. Having forgotten that Ms. Anderson was in the room, the three students look at each other, petrified.

LUCY:

Uh.

MS. ANDERSON:

You know the drill. Let me see what was so important that you had to break the rules. Lucy does so reluctantly. Ms. A. looks at the photo and frowns. Where did you get this?

LUCY:

Someone sent it to me.

MS. ANDERSON:

Seema, close the door. Scott, Lucy, sit down.

SCOTT:

But it's recess!

MS. ANDERSON:

Not anymore it isn't. I'm going to find out what's going on here and then talk to the principal. The three students gulp.

Black Screen With Text:
ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Wednesday
12:45 p.m.

Camera focuses on Priya and Anthony at Anthony's locker.

PRIYA:

This Cyber Civics story could be really big.

ANTHONY:

I know! And we could get the whole school involved figuring out ways to be cybersafe.

PRIYA (*excited*):

We could ask everyone to send suggestions to The Vine's website.

ANTHONY:

We could even get a discussion board going. People could write about their experiences—Anthony is cut off by the INTERCOM.

INTERCOM:

Would Mayumi Park please report to the principal's office immediately?

Anthony and Priya look to their left, and the camera focuses on Mayumi, whose locker is beside Anthony's. She darts them a nervous glance and closes her locker shut.

The camera follows Mayumi as she walks down the hallway. Various students look at her and whisper to each other, including two students named Julie and Duncan (who are the ones who created the site about her); they laugh at her as she passes by.

Mayumi enters the school office.

ADMIN ASSISTANT:

Mayumi, hello. Mrs. Robbins will see you right away.

Mayumi looks a bit scared, but takes a deep breath and knocks on the door of Mrs. Robbins's office.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Come in.

Mayumi enters. Mrs. Robbins sits at her desk, her laptop in front of her (we can't see the screen, but she's looking at the "We Hate Mayumi" FaceSpace group).

MRS. ROBBINS:

Hi, Mayumi. Please, sit down.

Mayumi does so.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Mayumi, I wanted to talk to you today to find out how you're doing.

MAYUMI (*shrugging*):

I'm okay.

MRS. ROBBINS (*gently*):

Mayumi, I've seen the FaceSpace group that was created about you. (Mayumi pales.) And I feel extremely bad that someone has done this to you. No one deserves to be treated this way.

Mayumi says nothing, but her lips trembles.

Mr. Solomon showed me the page this morning. One of your fellow classmates reported it to him.

MAYUMI (*quietly*):

Oh.

MRS. ROBBINS:

I must say I'm shocked. To think that students at Rose Vine may have created this group... It's unacceptable. Do you know how long this page has been up?

MAYUMI (*mumbling*):

About three days, I think.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Have you told your parents about it?

MAYUMI:

No way! I'm too embarrassed. They'd lose it.

MRS. ROBBINS:

I'm afraid I'll have to call them—

MAYUMI:

But I didn't do anything wrong!

MRS. ROBBINS:

I know that, and if your parents are having trouble understanding it, *please* let me know so I can speak to them. Mayumi, you're not being punished here. We need to figure out who did this and reduce the chance of it happening again.

Mayumi nods.

Mrs. Robbins looks at her laptop screen, her hands moving on the touch pad (we can't see what's on her screen).

MRS. ROBBINS:

Whoever created it used photos of you.

MAYUMI:

The photos are from my FaceSpace profile.

MRS. ROBBINS:

So it must be a friend who did this.

MAYUMI:

Well, my profile is open. Anyone could've grabbed the photos.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Hmm, you may need to rethink your privacy settings. I realize that an open profile page allows you to meet new people, but it also opens you up to more risks. What if you make your profile page only open to people that you trust, like good friends and family?

MAYUMI:

I guess...

MRS. ROBBINS:

It's one way to minimize the risks of your information being taken or altered. *(pause)* There's also a video of you on the site. You're brushing your hair at your locker. I'm assuming you had no idea you were being filmed?

MAYUMI *(quietly)*:

No.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Perhaps taken by someone using a cell phone.

MAYUMI:

There's also a link off the site right to my FaceSpace profile page... People started making nasty comments on there, too.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Do you have any idea who would do this? *(Mayumi is silent.)*
Mayumi, if you have any idea, you may as well tell me. We will find out eventually.

Mayumi says nothing.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Please, Mayumi. I'd like to stop this from happening to anyone else.

MAYUMI (*hesitantly*):

Well, on the right side of the page it shows that the administrator of the site is "JD." I'm pretty sure that stands for Julie and Duncan. That's what everyone calls them whenever they're together. They don't like me too much. I don't know why.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Thank you, Mayumi. I realize that this situation is very difficult for you, but we will make it better. Please, return to class.

Mrs. Robbins picks up the phone.

Black Screen With Text:

ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Wednesday

3:02 p.m.

COMPUTER LAB

Camera moves along the desks. Faheem has his head down on his desk, almost sleeping. Priya and Anthony stare at their computer screen. Julie and Duncan whisper excitedly to each other.

JULIE:

Okay, next I'll take a video of Mayumi changing in the locker room so that we can post it on the site.

DUNCAN (*laughing*):

Oh, man. That's perfect.

JULIE:

She'll be mortified. (*pause*) That's what she gets for being little miss perfect.

DUNCAN:

And thinking she's better than the rest of us!

VOICE OFF SCREEN (Priya): "Mayumi doesn't think that."

Camera widens to show that Priya has turned around in her desk to speak to Julie and Duncan.

JULIE:

Yes, she does.

PRIYA:

No, she doesn't, and even if she did, she doesn't deserve to have a FaceSpace page made about her.

DUNCAN:

Whatever.

JULIE (*hissing*):

You better not tell anyone it's us, or— She's interrupted by the intercom.

INTERCOM Voice Over:

Julie Oakley and Duncan Holditch, please report to the principal's office immediately. Julie and Duncan glance at each other quickly and then pack up their stuff. The class and Mr. Solomon watch them go.

MR. SOLOMON:

Settle down. Settle down.

PRIYA:

That has to be about the FaceSpace group!

PRIYA:

I don't know, but remember last month when those high school students made that hate website about that one religion? I bet whatever happened to them will happen to Julie and Duncan.

ANTHONY

Maybe. The FaceSpace group they made *is* kind of like a hate website.

MR. SOLOMON:

Priya, Anthony. Enough with the talking.

Priya and Anthony gulp and look at their computer screens.

MR. SOLOMON:

And Faheem! Wake up!

Faheem whips his head off the desk, awake now, and looks around confused.

Part 3:

Black Screen With Text:
ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Wednesday
3:05 p.m.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Julie and Duncan sit in chairs across from Mrs. Robbins. They shift uncomfortably.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Julie, Duncan. I'd like to ask you both a few questions with regards to a hate group that was created about Mayumi Park on FaceSpace.

JULIE:

We didn't make it.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Well, that's why we're here - to find out who did.

DUNCAN:

It wasn't us.

MRS. ROBBINS:

Do you know who "JD" is?

Startled, Julie and Duncan look at each other.

JULIE:

Not us.

Mrs. Robbins folds her hands together.

MRS. ROBBINS:

I'll be calling your parents tonight requesting that they come in for a meeting tomorrow, if possible.

DUNCAN:

What??

MRS. ROBBINS:

I've also contacted FaceSpace and I now know the IP address of the computer that the group was created on. That means I can link it to the exact location of the computer.

Julie and Duncan shift more.

JULIE (*panicked*):

We have three computers at my house, doesn't mean I did it.

MRS. ROBBINS:

True, but I hope to discuss all this with your parents in person tomorrow. Here at Rose Vine, we don't take behaviour like this lightly. Creating a hate group about another student is inappropriate use of technology. The perpetrators may face suspension.

JULIE AND DUNCAN:

Suspension?!

**Black Screen With Text:
ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Thursday
10:30 a.m.**

MS. ANDERSON'S GR. 6 CLASS

Sound Effect: bell rings

Kids jump up to gather their books. As they stream out, Ms. Anderson stops Herminder.

MS. ANDERSON:

Herminder, do you know where Faheem is today?

Herminder shrugs.

HERMINDER:

Probably at home sleeping.

MS. ANDERSON:

Why do you say that?

HERMINDER:

He's been staying up super late to finish his new game.

Priya and Anthony walk by. Once outside the classroom, they look at each other.

PRIYA:

I guess we know why Faheem is always falling asleep in class.

ANTHONY (shaking his head):

Huh, I thought I knew Faheem better than that. Lately, I feel like I don't know him at all.

PRIYA:

I know...That game is taking over his life!

CUT TO 4 VIDEOS OF Grade 6 students (boys and girls) answering the following questions:

What do you think is too much video game playing?

Student A: When it starts to control you life and you don't want to do the things that you used to because you're too busy playing your game.

Student B: When you spend too much time playing it and like it starts taking control of your life, like you can't do anything like without having it right there.

Student C: When your parents get mad at you and your friends don't want to play with you because you're spending too much time on the video game

Student D: When your friends notice that you're not hanging out with them like you used to and they get mad at you.

How do you think playing video games too much can affect your life, friends or schoolwork? What might the results be?

Student A: I think playing video games too much affects your friendship because your best friend thinks that the video game is more important then you.

Student B: Might upset my parents because I'm not doing the things I used to do like walking my dog, cleaning my room and doing my chores.

Student C: Would lead to not hanging with your friend, quitting sports teams and not trying new things.

Student D: You stay up so late playing it that you have to start skipping school so that you can get enough rest and when you actually go to school your grades start going from an A to a D.

Do you have friends or classmates who play a lot of video games? Has this affected your friendship? How did that make you feel?

Student A: Yes, I have a friend who plays a lot of video games, it makes me feel disappointed because he loses other interests like being my friend, school and sports.

Student B: Yes, I have a friend who plays too much video games and it makes me feel sad, I feel like she's deserted me as a friend.

Student C: Yes, there are a couple of kids in my class who are obsessed with video games and it frustrates me because they don't see what they're doing to themselves just playing this game.

Student D: Yes, and it makes me feel angry because they can't realize what they're doing to themselves and they prefer to having a game instead of real friends which is very sad for some people because their friendships are ended because of a game.

**Black Screen With Text:
ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Thursday
11:58 a.m.**

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Julie and Julie's parents sit across from Mrs. Robbins.

JULIE'S DAD:
Julie! Is any of this true?

JULIE:
No!

MRS. ROBBINS:
We don't have any solid proof yet—Julie sits back and smiles.

MRS. ROBBINS:
Which is why I've asked you both to come in. Did you bring the information I requested?

JULIE'S MOM:
Yes.

Julie's mom fishes around in her purse and hands Mrs. Robbins a piece of paper.

MRS. ROBBINS:
Thank you. She compares the info on the paper to info in her notebook.

JULIE (*panicked*):
What is it? What's going on?

JULIE'S DAD:
Mrs. Robbins asked us to bring in the IP address of all our home computers.

JULIE:
What??

Mrs. Robbins folds her hands in front of herself.

MRS. ROBBINS:
The IP address of the computer in Julie's bedroom matches the IP address that FaceSpace gave me.

JULIE:
No way! That's a lie!

Julie's parents look at their daughter and then at each other, clearly upset.

JULIE'S MOM:
I had no idea this was going on. She said she was using the Internet for research.

JULIE:
Mom! No...

JULIE'S DAD:
Julie! Please!

MRS. ROBBINS (*firmly but gently*):
Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, the first point of business is to decide on the consequences for Julie. We will also talk to Duncan and his family. After that, Julie will need some strategies put in place to make sure this kind of thing never happens again. I would be pleased to assist you or put you in touch with board staff to help you establish guidelines that will encourage Julie to use her computer properly

JULIE'S MOM:
We'd like that.

Black Screen With Text:
ROSE VINE PUBLIC SCHOOL
Thursday
After Recess
2:30 p.m.

Herminder is at his locker. He looks off camera to the right.

HERMINDER:
Yo, Carlos. Where you been at?

The camera widens to include Carlos looking a little shell-shocked as he tries to unlock the lock on his locker.

CARLOS:
In Mrs. Robbins's office.

HERMINDER:
Serious? For what?

CARLOS:
That Ashley photo. Mrs. Robbins said it was inappropriate use of technology.

HERMINDER:
But Ashley's the one who—

CARLOS:
I know, I know, but Mrs. Robbins says I shouldn't have sent the photo out to everyone.

HERMINDER:
What's the big deal? It was a joke.

Herminder slams his locker door.

CARLOS:
Ashley and her parents don't think it is, and neither does Mrs. Robbins.

HERMINDER:
Dude, what's going to happen?

CARLOS:
I don't know. Mrs. Robbins is calling my parents tonight.

He grabs a few books and slams his locker shut.

CARLOS (*cont'd*):

I'm going to get in so much trouble. They'll probably take my cell away and maybe even my computer. You know how my parents are.

HERMINDER:

That's rough.

VIDEO of a real life Principal discussing what they would do in this situation.

Principal:

Carlos should be really worried. This is a very serious situation and as a school principal, I would handle it very carefully and the investigation would be very thorough. In this situation, the children are two students at the same school, and the ramifications of Carlos's joke are very serious, since the student is no longer attending school. There are a variety of consequences using technology inappropriately. In this situation, after investigation, there may be a range of consequences that may happen. It could be a smaller consequence like detention, or it could be a very severe one like suspension or expulsion. In this situation, it's really important, just like all situations actually, that parents at the school are very much involved. The parent, as well as the school principal, would be together as we walk through this investigation. And the hope is that not only will there be consequences at school, that these consequences would be followed up at home.

The camera follows Carlos and Herminder as they walk into Ms. Anderson's class. They take their seats just as the school INTERCOM BUZZES on.

The camera pans around the class to include other faces in the room: Priya, Anthony, Lucy, Seema, Scott, Mayumi, Julie and Duncan.

INTERCOM Voice Over:

Students, this is your principal, Mrs. Robbins. I realize that it's unusual for me to make an announcement that interrupts your valuable instruction time near the end of the school day, but I must inform you that first thing Monday morning we will be having a special assembly on Cyber Civics.

There are a few groans.

INTERCOM Voice Over (*cont'd*):

As you are all aware, we've been talking about this topic a lot lately, but events this past week have proven to me that we haven't addressed it nearly enough. I'm shocked and disappointed at the actions of certain Rose Vine students.
Julie and Duncan share a glance, and Carlos sinks down in his chair.

INTERCOM V Voice O (*cont'd*):

I feel that we need to address this issue again. Cyber bullying is serious, and at Rose Vine Public School, we want to do everything in our power to make a safe school community for everyone.
Julie crosses her arms over her chest and looks down.

INTERCOM Voice Over:

Granted, these are the actions of only a few students and are certainly not representative of Rose Vine as a whole. However, it is disappointing that instead of helping to stop the cyberbullying, more students got caught up in it and contributed to it. I expect Rose Viners to stand up for others and not simply follow the crowd. It's the few people who misuse the Internet that make it more difficult to demonstrate the positive things that youth are doing online.

Priya leans over to Anthony and whispers: "Like the Cyber Civics story we're going to be doing."

Ms. Anderson gives her a warning look.

INTERCOM Voice Over:

And Rose Viners, please remember that the younger students look up to you; you're the ones setting the standards of good behaviour. Ask yourselves, what can we do as a school to help solve the types of online problems we've had this week? What can we do to be more cyber responsible? How can we involve the community? Thank you. That is all for now.

The class is silent for a few seconds until voices erupt and hands fly into the air.

PRIYA (*excitedly*):

Anthony and I are doing a story on Cyber Civics for The Vine. We could totally invite experts from the community to have a live chat on the site.

MS. ANDERSON:

Yes, good idea. Now let's get back to—

SEEMA:

And we could share our experiences on the discussion boards!

MS. ANDERSON:

Yes, okay, now open your books—

ANTHONY:

Or what about having a Kids Help Phone counsellor talk to us about friends who spend all their time playing video games—

HERMINDER (*interrupting*):

And ignore you! Sometimes talking to your friend doesn't work. I've tried. Maybe one of the experts from last year's Cyber Risk assembly could help.

Ms. Anderson holds up her hands, smiling.

MS. ANDERSON (*laughing*):

Okay, okay. It looks like we're not getting to history right this minute. All right, give me some other suggestions. Mayumi?

The rest of the class starts shouting out suggestions as we FADE TO BLACK.

END