Reflection to Support Evidence – Boundaries Paper

Course Learning Outcomes Satisfied:

- Develop understanding of: functional contexts & constraints, employment considerations, privacy tensions, BC legal, school policies/procedure, professional ethics re. social media use in education
- Analyze the BC educational context for social media use.

For this piece of evidence, I chose my Boundaries Paper that discussed "Navigating the BC Public Context for Social Media Use in Education". The paper focused on the four boundaries of:

- digital foot prints & professionalism
- privacy
- safety
- social justice

As part of this course we learned about the above four boundaries and their importance in today's digital world. There are many concerns related to the privacy of information and use of resources outside of Canada. This paper looked at what some of these concerns are and how we can address them ethically and responsibly in BC schools. As more education becomes available and is used online, is important for me to be aware of these concerns and educate my students on the responsible use of social media.

Central to the concerns of privacy in BC is the Freedom of Information Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA). This act requires that informed consent is obtained before collecting or using any personally identifiable information (PII). This is regardless of whether the teacher is collecting information for publishing or requiring the students to engage in and publish material online. Through the research and writing of this paper, I was made more aware of the processes involved in the use of a social media tool within the context of BC schools.

Social media is becoming widely used in society. Services such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. are used by huge numbers of people, students included. It makes sense that services like these will make their way into classrooms. Therefore, it is the teacher's job to ensure that students know how to use these services responsibly and how to protect themselves from the possible risks associated with them. It is also imperative that teachers understand the possible ramifications of what they post personally and their digital footprint. It is easy to post something on a whim, but nearly impossible to take it back once it is out there!