The Future Goals Program

Today's students face new challenges surrounding technology and maintaining healthy, digital lifestyles. An increasing number of students have access to the tools necessary to succeed, but are not being taught how to leverage technology in a safe and responsible way. Teens now use the Internet to conduct research, apply to college and network with friends, but the rules of appropriate behavior in this digital world are often unclear.

The National Hockey League (NHL) and the National Hockey League Players Association (NHLPA) are committed to energizing student interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and have partnered with EverFi to bring the Future Goals program into classrooms across North America at no cost.

The Educational Experience

Ignition - Digital Literacy & Responsibility is an online course that educates students on the nuts and bolts of how technology works while placing them in virtual environments to tackle issues surrounding digital citizenship.

* Curriculum aligns with the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS), established by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), and fulfills the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) objectives.

* Students apply their knowledge in virtual scenarios where they demonstrate their mastery of digital skills, including the creation of a blog, management of a social networking site and resolution of cyberbullying situations.

* Introduction to a variety of STEM careers, including discussions on life and academic paths that may lead to certain opportunities.

* Pre and post assessments allow teachers to track student knowledge gain.

Length: 3-4 Hours
Level: Grades 6-9
Topics Covered

* Digital footprint
* Secure identity
* Cyberbullying
* Good texting practices
* Conducting online research
* Digital time management
* STEM

1 in 5 Teens report having been cyberbullied by someone online or by text message.

- Cox Communications
Ignition and CIPA

*Ignition* maps to CIPA objectives by:

- Exploring positive communication and collaboration along with helping peers avoid negative online behavior. Students identify different forms of cyberbullying, pinpoint strategies for prevention and help those who have been victims.
- Determining short and long term personal effects of digital decisions, as well as the human, legal and social implications of digital use and technology.
- Recognizing the dangers and consequences of sharing too much personal information on social networks; understanding how to set up a secure online profile, including customizing privacy settings and creating strong passwords.

Getting Started

Getting started is easy! Teachers can get started as soon as they watch a brief training video. Supported is provided throughout the year by a local EverFi Implementation Manager.