

## Edmodo Information

While the Richmond County School System does not promote the usage of social networking on sites such as Facebook, My Space, and Twitter, we realize that there is value in sharing information by blogging and making resources available online. Many of our teachers began a “grass roots” movement by using Edmodo with their classes. The Media and Instructional Technology Department thoroughly researched Edmodo and found that it is a safe and secure resource for students, teachers, and parents. Edmodo is being used in many of our schools. Currently, we have over 8,000 users. We use Edmodo to communicate with our Media Specialists and other groups.

When students or teachers visit the site, they are going to the Richmond County domain version of Edmodo. This adds an extra layer of security to the site because no one outside of the system can visit the pages. Also, each teacher sets up a group and only those invited to join the group can see the posts or information. Parents may also join the group to be able to monitor their student’s activity online.

Edmodo does not allow students to communicate with each other through individual messaging. They have to respond to the whole group and not individuals. The teacher can monitor and remove any comments that are not deemed appropriate by the teacher. While it is true that teachers can send notes to individual students, these notes are not private or hidden. They show up on the teacher page and can be monitored also.

Edmodo is a valuable tool that engages student learning. We have used it with great success in many schools. We are using it with book clubs, reading groups, elementary, middle and high classes.