## Tech Tips for Teachers 1/20/2025 Safety in a Digital World

Even if you never read these, please read this one!

## What is 2-Factor Authentication and Why Are We Requiring You to Turn It On For Your School Google Account?

Two-step verification adds another layer of security to your accounts. With it turned on, you (or a would-be hacker) will need to take two steps to log in to your Google (or other tech product) account. In addition to your regular password, you'll



need a six-digit code or notification that gets sent to your phone immediately whenever you try to log in. This means hackers can't break into your account even if they've cracked your password. They'd also need physical possession of your phone.

- You are required to turn on 2-Factor authentication for your school managed Google account
  - We have sent multiple notices about this, with instructions.
  - You will, at some point, be locked out of your Google account if you don't turn it on.
  - If you haven't done this yet, there are instructions later in this document
    OR you can come and see me for help.
- What other apps or programs should you have 2-Factor Authentication turned on for?
  - Banking apps (could be a notification to your phone, email or a fingerprint login)
  - Social media accounts like Facebook, Instagram, etc.-these are some of the most commonly hacked accounts and social media platforms don't provide much if any help to recover. You are just out of luck. Hackers can act as you, access linked accounts, steal your photos, etc. Set these social media accounts up with 2-Factor authentication or with a backup email address.
  - Online Shopping Apps like Amazon, Walmart, Sam's Club, etc.-These almost always have card information linked. Need I say more?
  - Streaming Apps-Hulu, Netflix, etc.-These guys pretty much take care of this for you because they don't like your family members using your account
  - Ring or Other Security Apps-If hackers compromise your password they can get access to your cameras and potentially electronic devices in your home.

 Anything that contains personal information or banking/card information, or has saved data that you would be sad to lose, should have some form of 2-Factor authentication set up.

## How to Turn on 2-Factor Authentication for Google (School or Personal)

- Open your Google Account at <u>myaccount.google.com</u>
- Select Security in the navigation panel
- Under How you sign in to Google, select 2-Step Verification
- Select Get started
- Follow the on-screen steps