

## How to Avoid Scam Emails

### 1: The message contains a mismatched URL

One of the first things I recommend checking in a suspicious email message is the integrity of any embedded URLs. Oftentimes the URL in a phishing message will appear to be perfectly valid. However, if you hover your mouse over the top of the URL, you should see the actual hyperlinked address. If the hyperlinked address is different from the address that is displayed, the message is probably fraudulent or malicious.

### 2: URLs contain a misleading domain name

People who launch phishing scams often depend on their victims not knowing how the DNS naming structure for domains works. The last part of a domain name is the most telling. For example, the domain name update.eschoolnews.com would be a child domain of eschoolnews.com because eschoolnews.com **appears at the end of the full domain name** (on the right-hand side). Conversely, eschoolnews.com.datathief.com would clearly not have originated from eschoolnews.com because the reference to eschoolnews.com is on the left side of the domain name.

## 2: URLs contain a misleading domain name

- The domain name appears at the end of the url.



Innovation Weekly from eSN <eSchool.News@updates.eschoolnews.com>

4 ways AR/VR can transform your lesson plan



Innovation Weekly from eSN <eSchool.News@updates.eschoolnews.com.datathief.com>

4 ways AR/VR can transform your lesson plan

This trick is often used by phishing artists as a way of trying to convince victims that a message came from a company like Microsoft or Apple, a **principal** or **superintendent**, or a **department** (e.g., **Tech Services, Human Resources, or Finance**). The phishing artist simply creates a child domain bearing the name fbarnes@svsu.org or whatever. The resulting domain name looks something like this: fbarnes@svsu.org.sendmoney.com.

### 3: The message contains poor spelling and grammar

Whenever a large company sends out a message on behalf of the company as a whole, the message is usually reviewed for spelling, grammar, and legality, among other things. So if a message is filled with poor grammar or spelling mistakes, it probably didn't come from a major corporation's legal department. They're's probably no need to further explain this won. If you hav equestrians, email me letter at fbarnes@svsu.org.sendmoney.com.