# Just Hashtag It: Social Media & your publication

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## • Be Social

- Top 3
  - \* Facebook
  - \* Twitter
  - \* Instagram
- Interact with your reader
- Promote your publication
  - \* Don't make it only you promoting links
- Make connections with local people
- Model Prof. Publications
  - \* If the prof. do it, so should you
  - \* Do what others do
- Get noticed
  - \* Local accounts will RT you
- Story ideas
  - \* Collect them from your readers
  - \* Find Sources
- Break news faster
  - \* Tweet school cancelations quickly
- Impress judges
  - \* Judges will look for you social media

#### Facebook

- Grab your community
  - \* Facebook is not dead
  - \* Great for pushing content
    - · People will click your links
    - · Expands audience
- Photo contests

- \* "Cutest Couple"
- \* Draws a larger audience
- \* Careful: Leads to drama
- Promote print/online publications
  - \* "Tomorrow is paper day"
  - \* "Check out this teaser"
- Tag photos
  - \* Expands audience
  - \* Put your photos on Facebook, tag a few people, the rest of the group will tag the rest
  - \* Forces people to like the page in order to like the photo

#### • Twitter

- Be short
  - \* Some of the best wiring is short & brief
  - \* Engagement is huge
- Curate tweets
  - \* RT other people
  - \* Ask your interviewees what their Twitter handle is
- Hashtags
  - \* Use the hashtags your student body is using
  - \* Start Hashtag if you need to
    - · When people talk about things, that's news.
    - · What are people angry about? Write/Tweet about it.
- Do not over tweet
  - \* No more tweets than 5 per hour, not including live tweets
- Live Tweeting
  - \* Sports
    - · Scores, tweet scores
    - · Create sports only Twitter account
    - · People will get angry if you flood main account with sports
    - · Add multimedia
    - · Be accurate
  - \* Speakers
    - · Tweet quotes

- \* Assemblies
- \* Any school event
  - · Anywhere you can use a cell phone
- \* Why?
  - · Gains follower

## • Storify

- Use it
- Write a story using social media content
  - \* Allows you to curate social media content across platforms
  - \* Allows you to write your own content in between tweets/statuses/etc.
  - \* Ex. NBC's Olympic coverage, New York Times

## • Instagram

- Where the people are
- Allows you to be mobile
  - \* No longer waiting for stories to go up
  - \* Teasers
- Use video, not just pictures
  - \* It's a feature, use it.
- If it is about story, link to story
- Let someone take over your Instagram account
  - \* Trust, trust, trust
  - \* Make sure guest knows hashtag
  - \* Post intro photo where the takeover is announced
- #tbt with teachers
  - \* Or other content that no one else can get
  - \* EXCLUSIVE

## • The Hashtag

- Most important thing
- Allows for
  - \* Sourcing
    - · Finding people
  - \* Searching

- \* Engagemnt
- \* Create a school hashtag
  - · Make sure it's unique
  - · Allows you to generate a list of content
  - · People will use it knowing that you'll see it
  - · Use it consistently
- \* Contests/Games
  - · Make sure you do this
  - $\cdot$  Give away free tickets
  - · Always have a prize
  - $\cdot$ gomoxie.org Allows you to get free tickets & free stuff
  - · Have more than one prize

These notes were taken at the 2014 National High School Journalism Convention held in Washington, D.C., United States of America between November 7th and 9th. They were typeset & written using LaTeX by Cameron Wheeler.