

SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

Purpose and Applicability of Policy

This policy applies to students' use of social media and provides information about how to use social media responsibly, both within and outside the school community.

Definition of Social Media

Social media is defined as any form of online publication or presence that allows interactive communication, including, but not limited to, social networks, blogs, Internet websites, Internet forums, and wikis. Examples of social media include, but are not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Snapchat, Google+, and Flickr.

Academic Use of Social Media

Students using social media for academic purposes (e.g., using a blog established by the teacher for a class for a school assignment) must treat the platform as a digital extension of the classroom. The same rules apply online as they do at school and in the classroom.

Personal Use of Social Media

Students' personal social media use, including use outside of school, may result in disruption at school. Student misuse of social media, whether on or off school grounds, when it creates a hostile, disruptive, or unsafe learning environment, is prohibited. The School District does not tolerate cyberbullying (that is, harassment that occurs through any form of electronic communication). Students should report any instances of cyberbullying to a teacher or principal.

Student access or use of personal social media on School District-owned networks or equipment, or during school hours is prohibited.

Applicability of School District Policies and Other Laws

This Student Use of Social Media policy is intended to supplement, not supersede, existing School District policies, and laws. All existing School District policies, regulations and laws that cover student conduct are applicable in the social media environment.

STUDENT

NOTE: Refer also to policies #3410 -- Code of Conduct on School Property
#7310 -- School Conduct and Discipline
#7315 -- Student Use of Computerized Information Resources
#7316 -- Student Use of Personal Technology
District Code of Conduct on School Property