

POLICY ON FACEBOOK AND SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

The Superintendent and the School Principals will annually orient school employees, new school employees and volunteers concerning the importance of maintaining proper decorum in the on-line, digital world as well as in person. In addition, all new school employees and volunteers will be provided with a copy of this policy. School employees and volunteers must conduct themselves in ways that do not distract from or disrupt the educational process. The orientation and reminders will give special emphasis to:

1. Improper fraternization with students using Facebook and similar internet sites or social networks, or via cell phone, texting or telephone.
 - a. School employees and volunteers may not list current students as “friends” on networking sites.
 - b. All one-to-one and/or direct e-contacts with students should be through the district’s computer and telephone system, except in emergency situations.
 - c. All contact and messages by coaches with team members shall be sent to the athletic director and the school principal.
 - d. School employees and volunteers will not give out their private cell phone or home phone numbers to students without prior written approval by the Superintendent.
 - e. Inappropriate contact via internet or phone is prohibited.
2. inappropriateness of posting items with sexual content
3. inappropriateness of posting items exhibiting or advocating use of drugs and/or alcohol
4. Inappropriateness of posting items exhibiting drugs, unbecoming conduct and/or illegal behavior
5. examples of inappropriate behavior from other districts, as the behavior to avoid
6. monitoring and penalties for improper use of district computers and technology
7. the possibility of penalties, including dismissal from employment, for failure to exercise good judgment in on-line conduct.

The Superintendent or designees may periodically conduct internet searches to see if school employees or volunteers have posted inappropriate materials on-line. When inappropriate use of computers and websites is discovered, the School Principals and Superintendent will promptly bring that inappropriate use to the attention of the staff member and may consider and apply disciplinary action up to and including termination.

1st Reading: January 25, 2012