



LAKE WORTH COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDE 2013-14

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Social Media

In an increasingly digital world, we seek to offer students the opportunities that multi-media learning can offer. As we challenge our students with new methods of learning, we continue to ensure that these tools are used responsibly, and enrich the learning environment in our school. Social media technology can serve as a powerful tool to enhance education, communication, and learning.

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, Google+, and Flickr. This Guide does not address the professional use of third-party collaboration tools for purposes other than social media.

Skills learned by using social media responsibly cover all five of the most frequently reported applied skills employers rated as “very important:” Professionalism/Work Ethic, Oral and Written Communications, Teamwork/Collaboration, Critical Thinking/Problem Solving and Ethics/Social Responsibility, as reported in a study entitled [Are they Really Ready to Work?](#), highlighting employers’ perspectives on skills needed for the 21st century workforce.

Consequences for Inappropriate, Unauthorized and Illegal Use

General rules for behavior, ethics, and communications apply when using social networking systems and information, in addition to the stipulations of this Policy and its accompanying administrative regulations. Users must be aware that violations of this Policy, accompanying administrative regulation(s), or other School District policies, regulations, rules or procedures, or statutes, regulations and laws or unlawful use of social media systems and information, may result in loss of access and a variety of other disciplinary actions, including but not limited to, warnings, usage restrictions, loss of privileges, position reassignment, oral or written reprimands, student suspensions, employee suspensions (with or without pay for employees), dismissal, expulsions, breach of contract, penalties provided in statutes, regulations, and other laws and/or legal proceedings on a case-by-case basis. This Policy, and its accompanying administrative regulation, incorporate all other relevant School District policies, such as, but not limited to, the student and professional employee discipline policies, Code of Student Conduct, Acceptable Use Policy, its accompanying administrative regulation, and guidelines, and copyright, property, curriculum, terroristic threat, vendor access, harassment, and discrimination policies.

Further Reference: SDPBC Board Policies, Administrative Regulations, Rules, and Procedures

Regulations

- 1. Students are responsible for their own behavior when communicating with social media and will be held accountable for the content of the communications that they state/post on social media locations.** Use good judgment. Students are responsible for complying with the School District’s conduct requirements (Board Policy - [5.1813](#)). Students may not disrupt the learning atmosphere, educational programs, school activities, and the rights of others.



2. In addition, students may be required to also comply with policies, administrative regulations, rules and procedures at the entity and/or program in which they are assigned or in which they participate. If a student believes there is a conflict in the requirements (s)he is to comply with (s)he must bring the matter to the attention of their teacher, who will in turn assist the student.
3. This Administrative Regulation applies to all School District environments, whether the social media is used on School District property, or beyond School District property (including but not limited to, at a third-party's contracted property).
4. In addition to the regulations provided in the School District's Social Media Policy, some guidelines include but are not limited to the following. The School District reserves the right to determine if any guideline not appearing in the list below constitutes acceptable or unacceptable social media use.
 - a. Students must not promote illegal drugs, illegal activities, violence, and drinking.
 - b. Students should state/post only what they want the world to see. Imagine your parents, the teachers, and the administrators visiting your social media. Essentially, once a student shares something it is likely available after (s)he removes it from the social media and could remain on the internet permanently.
 - c. Students should be cautious when they use exaggeration, colorful language, guesswork, derogatory remarks, humor, and characterizations. It is difficult for readers to determine the seriousness of the statements/posts.
 - d. Students should run updated malware protection to avoid spyware, adware, spiders, bots, crawlers and other infections that may be placed on their social media and computer to obtain personal information, breach security, and cause various technology problems.
 - e. Students should stay informed and cautious for new problems in the use of social media.



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Acknowledgment and Consent Form

Students,

I have received, read, and understand the Social Media Guide and Student Social Media Administrative Regulation, and will comply with them. Someone from the School District has also reviewed this Policy and the Administrative Regulation with me, and, my parents have reviewed them with me. In addition, I have been given the opportunity to obtain information from the School District and my parent(s) about anything I do not understand, and I have received the information I requested. If I have further questions I will ask school administrator and my parent(s).

Additionally, I understand that if I violate the Social Media Guide and/or Student Social Media Administrative Regulation I am subject to the School District's consequences for inappropriate, unauthorized, and illegal use provided in the Social Media Guide, and could be subject to additional consequences provided in additional School District policies, administrative regulations, rules, and procedures, and provided in social media and Internet service provider requirements, as well as local, state and federal laws, whether civil or criminal.

Name of Student _____

Signature of Student _____ Date of Signature _____

Parent(s)

As the parent of a student receiving School District services, I have received, read, and understand the Social Media Guide and Student Social Administrative Regulation. In addition, I reviewed the Policy and Student Administrative Regulation with my child and answered questions he or she asked. If either my child or I have further questions I will ask my child's school administrator. I agree to have my child abide by the requirements of the Policy and Student Administrative Regulation. Additionally, I understand that if my child violates this Policy and/or Student Administrative Regulation, (s)he is subject to the School District's consequences as provided above in the Student section.

Name of Parent _____

Signature of Parent _____ Date of Signature _____