



Boulder Valley School District
File: EGAEA
Adopted: October 23, 2012

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Electronic communication is the transmittal of a communication between two or more computers or other electronic devices, whether or not the message is converted to hard copy format and whether or not the message is viewed upon receipt. Electronic communication includes all electronic messages that are transmitted through a local, regional or global computer network.

All district electronic communication systems are owned by the district and are intended for the purpose of conducting official district business only. District electronic communication systems are not intended for personal use by district employees. Employees shall have no expectation of privacy when using district electronic communication systems.

Electronic communication sent or received by the Board, the district or district employees may be considered a public record subject to retention under state or federal law. Such electronic communication may also be subject to public disclosure or inspection under the Colorado Open Records Act.

Whenever the district is a party in litigation or reasonably anticipates being a party in litigation, Board members and district employees in possession of electronic documents, e-mail and/or other evidence relevant to the litigation or reasonably anticipated litigation shall retain all such documents, e-mails and other evidence until otherwise directed by the superintendent or designee.

To ensure compliance with applicable law and district policy, the district retains the right to review, store and disclose all information sent over the district electronic communication systems for any legally permissible reason, including but not limited to determining whether the information is a public record, whether it contains information discoverable in litigation and to access district information in the employee's absence.

Upon sending or receiving an electronic communication, all users shall segregate or store those communications that are public records. Public records are those that evidence the district's functions, policies, decisions, procedures, operations or other activities of the district or that contain valuable district data.

Electronic communication on district computers or district electronic communication systems shall be retained only as long as necessary. Such electronic communication shall be deleted on a routine basis unless otherwise required to be retained by district policy or state or federal law.

The custodian of records for the district shall assist the public in locating any specific public electronic records requested and shall provide public access to public electronic records in accordance with state law. The district's records custodian shall also be responsible for assisting the district's schools and other sites in complying with record retention requirements.

District employees may not access another employee's electronic mail without the employee's consent or authorization from an appropriate administrator. District employees will take appropriate security measures, which includes maintaining the confidentiality of passwords, log ins, and codes and insuring that computers or electronic devices do not become available for unauthorized use.

District employees may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of this policy.

LEGAL REFS.:

- C.R.S. 24-6-401 et. seq.,
- 24-72-201 et. seq.,
- 24-80-101 et. seq., (State Archives and Public Records Act) Colorado Open Records Act
- 20 U.S.C. 1232g., Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974
- C.R.S. 24-72-203(1)(b)(I) (district must adopt policy regarding the retention, archival and destruction of electronic records)
- C.R.S. 24-72-204.5 (district must adopt policy on monitoring of electronic mail)

CROSS REF.:

- GBEE, Staff Use of District Technology
- JS, Student Use of District Technology
- JO/JO-R, Student Records
- GBCB, Staff Conduct and Responsibilities
- GBC/GBCA, Staff Ethics
- GBL Personnel Records/Files
- KBA-R Guidelines for Responding to Public Request for Information

End of File: EGAEA