

Electronic Resources and Internet Safety

The Nooksack Valley School District Board of Directors recognizes that an effective public education system develops students who are globally aware, civically engaged, and capable of managing their lives and careers. The board also believes that staff and students need to be proficient and safe users of information, media, and technology to succeed in a digital world.

Electronic Resources

The district will develop and use electronic resources as a powerful and compelling means for students to learn core subjects and applied skills in relevant and rigorous ways and for staff to educate them in such areas of need. It is the district's goal to provide students with rich and ample opportunities to use technology for important purposes in schools just as individuals in workplaces and other real-life settings use these tools. The district's technology will enable educators and students to communicate, learn, share, collaborate and create; to think and solve problems; to manage their work; and to take ownership of their lives.

The superintendent or designee will: 1) create strong electronic resources and develop related educational systems that support innovative teaching and learning; 2) provide appropriate staff development opportunities regarding this policy; and 3) develop procedures to support this policy. The superintendent or designee is authorized to develop procedures and acceptable use guidelines for staff and students as to use of district electronic resources, including those that access Internet and social media, and to regulate use of personal electronic resources on district property and related to district activities.

Internet Safety

To help ensure student safety and citizenship with electronic resources, all students will be educated about Internet safety. This will include appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

To promote Internet safety and appropriate online behavior of students and staff as they use electronic resources and access material from the Internet, the superintendent or designee is authorized to develop or adopt Internet safety procedures, acceptable use guidelines, and, for students, related instructional materials for every grade level. The superintendent or designee in evaluating such procedures and instructional materials should take into account District electronic resources, community norms, privacy rights, responsible use, and issues of concern with student or staff use of electronic resources.

As a component of district Internet safety measures, all district-owned electronic resources, including computer networks and Wi-Fi, in all district facilities capable of accessing the Internet must use filtering software to prevent access to obscene, racist, hateful or violent material. However, given the ever-changing nature of the Internet, the district cannot guarantee that a student will never be able to access objectionable material.

Further, when students use the Internet from school facilities for educational purposes, district staff will make a reasonable effort to supervise student access and use of the internet. If material is accessed that violates district policies, procedures or student guidelines for electronic resources or acceptable use, district staff may instruct the person to cease using that material and/or implement sanctions consistent with district policies, procedures, guidelines, or student codes of conduct.

Electronic Information System (Networks)

The Board of Directors recognizes that the district is implementing an electronic communications system (network) that will allow unprecedented opportunities for students, staff and patrons to communicate, learn access and publish information. The Board believes that the resources available through this network and the skills that students will develop in using it are of significant value in the learning process and student success in the future. These new opportunities also pose many new challenges including, but not limited to, access for all students, age-level appropriateness of material, security, and cost of maintaining ever more elaborate systems. The district will endeavor to ensure that these concerns are appropriately addressed, but cannot insure that problems will not arise.

By creating this network, the Board intends only to provide a means for educational activities and does not intend to create a first amendment forum for free expression purposes. The district dedicates the property comprising the network, and grants access to it by users, only for the educational activities authorized under this policy and procedures and under the specific limitations contained therein.

The Board directs the Superintendent to provide training and procedures that encourage the widest possible access to electronic information systems and networks by students, staff and patrons while establishing reasonable controls for the lawful, efficient and appropriate use and management of the system.

Cross References:

- 5281 - Disciplinary Action and Discharge
- 4400 - Election Activities
- 4040 - Public Access to District Records
- 3241 - Classroom Management, Discipline and

Corrective Action
3231 - Student Records
3207 - Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation
and Bullying
2025 - Copyright Compliance
2020 - Curriculum Development and Adoption
of Instructional Materials

Legal References:

18 USC __ 2510-2522 Electronic
Communication Privacy Act
Pub. L. No. 110-385 Protecting Children in the
21st Century Act

Management Resources:

2015 - June Policy Issue
2012 - October Issue
2012 - February Issue
Policy News, June 2008 Electronic Resources
Policy News, June 2001 Congress Requires
Internet Blocking at School
Policy News, August 1998 Permission required
to review e-mail

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