

BOARD MEMBER INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA USE

While the District is not responsible for the online activity of individual board members, the Yellowstone School Board adopts the following rules and procedures related to a board member commenting on school district business online, including on social media sites.

Individual board members have no authority to take action on behalf of the District unless delegated such authority by a majority vote of the Board taken at a properly noticed board meeting. However, the public may still perceive individual board members as official district spokespersons without the delegation of specific authority. Because of this potential perception, whenever commenting on school district business online, individual board members shall:

1. Avoid posting content indicating that they have formed an opinion on a matter pending before the Board;
2. Avoid posting a dissenting opinion on a matter that has been decided by a majority vote of the Board;
3. Clarify that they are commenting as individuals—not as district spokespersons—unless delegated authority to speak for the District by a majority vote of the Board.
4. Comply with district policy and applicable laws related to confidentiality including, but not limited to, items discussed during an executive session and student educational records;
5. Direct complaints to the appropriate district channels for processing in accordance with policy;
6. Not poll or otherwise ask for community input unless delegated this authority by a majority vote of the Board; and
7. Report to the Administrator, as soon as possible, any public comments that potentially violate district policy, including policies on discrimination and harassment, bullying, and employee speech.

Use of District Technology

Board members shall comply with the district’s acceptable use policy when using district-owned technology.

End of Yellowstone Board Reg. BA-BR2 Adopted: 3/16/20

Reviewed: 9/16/2024