"Inspire learners, Integrate sustainability, Involve community"

Section: Learning and Working Environment
Dates of Revisions:
Date of Adoption and
Resolution Number: June 13, 2018 -76/18

Rationale:

The primary purpose of School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) is the education of our students. Business and administrative use of district information and communication systems is intended for the direct support of the district's operation in that regard.

The School District No. 64 Board of Education recognises that informed and responsible use of electronic information and communication systems, and social media, promotes technological literacy and offers many other educational benefits. It is committed to promoting responsible digital citizenship and to minimizing the risks associated with the use of electronic communications systems and access to social media.

Because access is by way of The Provincial Learning Network, the board is obliged to define expectations for all users (students, staff, parents and visitors), and inform all users of the potential risks, and the consequences of inappropriate use.

Mobile devices and cloud-based software are becoming increasingly prevalent in our everyday lives. The board recognize the value, and supports the use, of these technologies as relevant and engaging tools that help students develop digital literacy skills and amplify quality teaching and learning. It further recognizes that such use has implications for student privacy and safety (see Policy 131).

Policy:

The School District No. 64 Board of Education offers access to a variety of information and communications systems, and social media, for staff, student and limited by others, such as visitors to schools. These systems include, but are not limited to computers connected to District systems, software, networks and wireless networks, electronic and fibre optic systems, email and voicemail, data, and access to the Internet. Computers and information systems in schools are owned by the District and intended for educational and/or research purposes and for conducting legitimate District business. The board believes that the most important element when considering the adoption of any online tool is the implications on student privacy and safety.

These information systems have been established to support and facilitate student learning and achievement, and protect user personal information and ensure user safety by:

a. supporting and enhancing the delivery of educational services to students;

b. improving student and teacher workflow for collaboration and sharing of learning;

c. providing delivery options for students consistent with their learning styles, access requirements, and program needs;

d. extending student learning beyond the classroom and into homes and communities;

e. providing new forms of information tools to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the business of education;

f. carefully selecting and monitoring online collaboration and productivity tools

g. enhancing opportunities for staff to participate in professional development activities;

h. facilitating communication with partner groups and the community;

i. blocking advertisements and 3rd party scanning of student or staff information;

j. allowing for more strict filtering and application control by system administrators.

It is expected that all users of these systems will demonstrate responsible use by adhering to this policy and its associated procedures.

References

- BC Education Plan.
- BC Ministry of Education: Internet Safety. http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/health-and-safety/internet-safety
- Policy 131