"Together We Learn"

486 - STUDENT USE OF NETWORK SERVICES AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

Introduction

The Board of Education in Central Okanagan Public Schools provides network services and digital technologies to support a student's educational program by providing access to digital devices, digital learning resources and online educational applications.

"Digital literacy and citizenship is an important skill to have in today's technology based world. The BC Ministry of Education defines digital literacy as the interest, attitude, and ability of individuals to appropriately use digital technology and communication tools to access, manage, integrate, analyze, and evaluate information, construct new knowledge, create, and communicate with others". – B.C. Ministry of Education
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/teach/teaching-tools/digital-literacy

Use of technologies and digital citizenship is a shared responsibility between students, parents/guardians, educators, schools, districts, and governments. Given the dynamic nature of digital technology, all groups should work together to reduce the risks posed by Internet usage and to promote positive digital citizenship practices and healthy technology usage.

Definitions

Digital Citizenship
Digital citizenship is defined as appropriate, responsible behaviour with regard to technology use.

Digital Learning
Digital learning is any type of learning that uses technology. It can happen across all curriculum learning areas.

Digital Technologies
Digital technologies are electronic tools, systems, devices and resources that generate, store or process data. Well known examples include computers, laptops, tablets and smartphones, as well as social media, online applications, and multimedia.

Educational Purposes
Educational purposes are those purposes which directly support student learning as outlined in the core and curricular competencies mandated by the Ministry of Education.

Network Services
Network services includes data storage, communication tools, and various productivity applications.

Policy

Responsible Student Use of Network Services and Digital Technologies

In accessing District network services and digital technologies, it is expected that students will:

1. Demonstrate digital citizenship and act responsibly when accessing the school computer networks, District networks and the Internet, both during and outside of school hours, by conducting all related activities in a responsible, ethical, legal and respectful manner in accordance with the School's Code of Conduct.

2. Practice safe online behaviour and report any inappropriate use of network services and/or digital technologies.

3. Understand the importance of privacy and security and take all reasonable precautions when accessing network services and digital technologies.

4. Protect access to their individual network accounts by the use of a private, personal password, ensure that their personal password is not shared, and agree not to use the password of any other individual.

5. Respect the privacy of others (e.g. students, staff, parents and community members), including but not limited to, the sharing of photos, videos, and personal information, without informed consent.

6. Ensure that personal use of electronic communications systems neither interferes with, nor distracts from, their learning or the learning of others.

7. Recognize that the sole purpose of using network services and digital technologies while in educational settings is to engage in responsible educational activities as directed by staff.

Consequences

Each school's Code of Conduct will include the expectations regarding student use of digital technologies and will be brought to parents/students' attention at the beginning of every school year or upon registration. Use of network services and digital technologies which violates the terms outlined in policy and/or the School's Code of Conduct may result in serious consequences including definite or indefinite suspensions and/or police intervention.

Date Agreed: November 23, 2011 (interim)
  March 28, 2012 (final)
Date Amended: May 26, 2021
Date Reviewed: November 26, 2014
Related Documents: Policy 386

486 - Student Use of Network Services and Digital Technologies
Page 3 of 3