

LEGAL: HB 240 REVISES KRS 158.305 REQUIRING AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR, A STUDENT REMAIN IN KINDERGARTEN FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR IF THEY DID NOT MAKE ADEQUATE PROGRESS IN KINDERGARTEN. PROHIBITS A SCHOOL FROM REQUIRING A STUDENT WHO TURNS SEVEN BY AUGUST 1 TO REMAIN IN KINDERGARTEN. A SCHOOL MUST REEVALUATE THE READING IMPROVEMENT PLAN OF ANY STUDENT REMAINING IN KINDERGARTEN AND ALLOW A STUDENT PROVIDED AN ADDITIONAL YEAR IN KINDERGARTEN TO ADVANCE THROUGH THE PRIMARY PROGRAM WHEN IT IS DETERMINED TO BE IN THE STUDENT'S BEST INTEREST. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.22

Promotion and Retention

Any promotions or credits earned in attendance in any approved public school are valid in any other public school.¹

TRANSFERS

In case a pupil transfers from the school of one district to the school of another district, s/he may not be assigned to a lower grade or course until the pupil has demonstrated that s/he is not suited for the work in the grade or course to which s/he has been promoted.¹

Pupils who transfer from a non-accredited school may be required to take tests from the previous grade to determine grade placement or course credit.²

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Upon successful completion of all state and Board requirements, the student shall receive a diploma indicating graduation from high school.¹

VOCATIONAL CERTIFICATE

A student who has completed the requirements established by the State Department of Education for a vocational program shall receive a vocational certificate of completion specifying the areas of competence.¹

STUDENT PROGRESS

Each school shall determine criteria for student progress through the school's program. The criteria shall reflect mastery of state-required capacities and be aligned with the Kentucky Summative Assessment.

A student may advance through the primary program without regard to age if the District determines that s/he has acquired the academic and social skills taught in kindergarten and that advancement would be in his/her best educational interest. Successful completion of the primary program, as determined by methods set out in Kentucky Administrative Regulations, shall be a prerequisite for a child's entrance into the fourth grade.

Beginning with the 2025-2026 school year, a kindergarten student who had a reading improvement plan in place for the school year may remain in kindergarten for an additional school year if the school makes a determination based on the criteria set forth in KRS 158.305.

A first-grade student who had a reading improvement plan in place for the school year shall remain in first grade for an additional year if the school makes a determination based on the criteria set forth in KRS 158.305.

A student who remains in kindergarten based on the criteria set forth in KRS 158.305 shall not subsequently be required to remain in first grade, and a student shall not be required to remain in first grade for more than one (1) additional year.

The school shall reevaluate and make necessary changes to the reading improvement plan of any student remaining in kindergarten or first grade and shall continue to provide all programs and services required by KRS 158.305 during the additional year of kindergarten or first grade.

A student provided an additional year of kindergarten or first grade may advance through the primary school program when it is determined by the school to be in the best educational interest of the student.

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Promotion and Retention**STUDENT PROGRESS (CONTINUED)**

Board-approved student handbook(s) shall contain complete details.

Parents shall be notified when their child is performing below expectations and/or achieving below expected outcomes.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

In cases which involve students with disabilities, the procedures mandated by federal and state law for students with disabilities shall be followed.³

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 158.140

²704 KAR 3:307

³P. L. 105-17

KRS 158.031; KRS 158.645; KRS 158.6451; KRS 158.6453

KRS 158.860; KRS 160.1592; KRS 160.345

OAG 82-473

RELATED POLICIES:

[02.441.35](#) 08.113.35 08.222.35 08.5.35 09.121

LEGAL: SB 207 AMENDS KRS 156.433 USING INSTRUCTIONAL "MATERIALS" INSTEAD OF
INSTRUCTIONAL "RESOURCES", EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.232

Instructional Resources/Materials**SURVEY**

Schools not having SBDM school councils shall survey teachers to determine their needs for instructional [resources/materials](#). The results of the survey shall be used to establish priorities for purchase.

ALLOCATION METHOD

Within budgetary limits, schools or school councils shall establish an equitable method of allocating funds to purchase instructional [resources/materials](#).

FINANCIAL REPORT

A financial report on allocations to and expenditures for instructional [resources/materials](#) shall be prepared annually by the Board and shall be a public record.

Each school may carry forward to the next fiscal year any part of the instructional [materials/resource/resource](#) allocation distributed to the school that has not been spent or committed in the current fiscal year.

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCE FUND

Schools with any grade from P-8 may purchase instructional [resources/materials](#) using State funds in accordance with 704 KAR 3:455.

Each school allocated instructional [materials/resource/resource](#) funds shall complete an annual plan to identify purchases following guidelines of the Kentucky Board of Education.

The annual plan shall be approved by the Board and by the School Council in SBDM schools.

All plans shall be approved by the local Board as to sufficiency of funding to support the requested purchases.

Any purchase exceeding the funds allocated shall be paid from other Council funds in SBDM schools.

SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

Schools shall generate grade level supply lists, not individual teacher lists, following guidelines set forth in procedures and to be approved by the school Principal and SBDM Council.

Each school shall submit copies of supply lists to the appropriate Superintendent/designee for review prior to posting/distribution.

FEES

If the Board authorizes charging rental fees for students in grades nine through twelve (9-12), the Board shall establish those fees annually.

Instructional [resources/materials](#) shall be made available to all students. No student shall be denied full participation in any educational program due to an inability to pay for, or rent, all necessary instructional [resources/materials](#).¹

Fee waivers shall be provided as required by applicable statutes and regulations.²

Instructional ResourcesMaterials**RESPONSIBILITY**

Students or parents shall compensate the District for instructional [resourcesmaterials](#) that are lost, damaged, or destroyed while in the student's possession.

SECTARIAN TEXTS

No book or other publication of a sectarian, infidel, or immoral character or one that reflects on any religious denomination shall be used or distributed in any school.³

This does not prevent a teacher, consistent with his or her assigned duties, from using or distributing books or other publications that reflect any religious denomination to teach the secular study of religion as permitted by the Constitutions of the United States of America or the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

REFERENCES:

¹KRS 158.108

²KRS 160.330; 702 KAR 3:220

³KRS 158.190

KRS 156.162

KRS 156.433

KRS 156.439

KRS 157.110; KRS 158.188

702 KAR 3:246

704 KAR 3:455

RELATED POLICIES:

02.4242

04.32

09.15

THIS POLICY CONTAINS KDE OFFICE OF EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE
LEGAL: HB 208 AMENDS KRS 156.675 INCLUDING SOCIAL MEDIA IN PROHIBITED MATERIAL TO BE MADE INACCESSIBLE THROUGH SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY UNLESS AUTHORIZED BY A TEACHER FOR INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES. THIS BILL CONTAINS AN EMERGENCY CLAUSE MAKING IT ALREADY IN EFFECT.

LEGAL: SB 181 CREATES A NEW SECTION OF KRS 160 DIRECTING EACH BOARD TO DESIGNATE ONE OR MORE PROGRAMS OR APPLICATIONS AS A TRACEABLE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM THAT SHALL BE THE EXCLUSIVE MEANS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS TO COMMUNICATE ELECTRONICALLY WITH STUDENTS.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.2323

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

The Board supports reasonable access to various information formats for students, employees and the community and believes it is incumbent upon users to utilize this privilege in an appropriate and responsible manner as required by this policy and related procedures, which apply to all parties who use District technology.

SAFETY PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

The Superintendent shall develop and implement appropriate procedures to provide guidance for access to electronic media and authorized communication system(s). Guidelines shall address teacher supervision of student computer use, ethical use of electronic media (including, but not limited to, the Internet, e-mail, and other District technological resources), and issues of privacy versus administrative review of electronic files and communications. In addition, guidelines shall prohibit utilization of networks for prohibited or illegal activities, the intentional spreading of embedded messages, or the use of other programs with the potential of damaging or destroying programs or data.

Guidelines and procedures should encourage details on how the District implements and facilitates digital learning tools and portable/mobile technologies to foster ubiquitous access for staff and students, emphasizing always-on, everywhere digital opportunity and empowering Districts and schools to fully understand digital access beyond the campus. With such District implemented resources, the guidelines for acceptable and responsible use shall still apply, regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization.

The District shall support teacher efforts in taking ownership of digital citizenship skills and educating their students in the same skills to foster a responsible, safe, secure, and empowered digital learning environment. Students shall be provided instruction about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Internet safety measures, which shall apply to all District-owned devices with Internet access, District-managed systems and accounts, and personal devices that are permitted to access the District's network, shall be implemented that effectively address the following, regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization:

- Controlling access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web;
- Safety and security of minors when they are using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- Preventing unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
- Restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them.

A technology protection measure may be disabled by the Board's designee during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

The District shall provide reasonable public notice of, and at least one (1) public hearing or meeting to address and communicate its initial Internet safety measures.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

Specific expectations for appropriate Internet use shall be reflected in the District's code of acceptable behavior and discipline including appropriate orientation for staff and students.

PERMISSION/AGREEMENT FORM

All applicable procedures and guidelines resulting from this AUP/RUP shall be readily available and for use by students, parents/guardians, faculty, staff and other to whom access is granted. A written parental or legal guardian request shall be required to opt-out of or rescind access to electronic media involving District technological resources. Or if applicable procedures require, a written parental request may be required to prior to the student being granted independent access to electronic media involving District technological resources. This document shall be kept on file as a legal, binding document.

The required permission/agreement materials, which shall specify acceptable uses, rules of online behavior, access privileges, and penalties for policy/procedural violations, must be acknowledged by the parent or legal guardian of minor students (those under 18 years of age) and also by the student. In order to opt-out, modify or rescind the agreement, the student's parent/guardian (or the student who is at least 18 years old) must provide the Superintendent with a written request.

EMPLOYEE USE

Employees shall not use a code, access a file, or retrieve any stored communication unless they have been given authorization to do so. (Authorization is not required each time the electronic media is accessed in performance of one's duties.) Each employee is responsible for the security of his/her own authentication credentials.

Employees are encouraged to use electronic mail and other District technology resources to promote student learning and communication with the home and education-related entities. If those resources are used, they shall be used for purposes directly related to work-related activities.

Technology-based materials, activities and communication tools shall be appropriate for and within the range of the knowledge, understanding, age and maturity of students with whom they are used.

In accordance with KRS 160.145, the Board shall designate a traceable communication system to be the exclusive means for District employees and volunteers to communicate electronically with students. The Principal of each school shall provide parents written or electronic notification within the first ten (10) days of the school year of each electronic school notification and communication program designated within the traceable communication system. The notification shall include instructions for parents to access and review communications sent through each electronic school notification and communication program. See policy 08.2324 for complete details and guidelines.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

EMPLOYEE USE (CONTINUED)

A District employee or volunteer, unless authorized, shall not communicate electronically with a student:

1. Outside of the traceable communication system designated by the Board; or
2. Through an unauthorized electronic communication program or application.

This shall not restrict any electronic communications between a student and his or her family member who is a District employee or volunteer.

Networking, communication systems, and other options offering the ability to communicate directly with students may be used for the purpose of supplementing classroom instruction and to promote communications with students and parents concerning school-related activities in accordance with Policy 08.2324.

Students may only be invited or granted access to Board approved traceable electronic communications systems, including social media platforms and other digital communication sites, if the District has verified that the system meets acceptable data privacy standards and includes appropriate protections for student information. Furthermore, the students must meet the platform's minimum age requirements before being granted access or invited to access.

Staff members shall not use or create personal social networking accounts to which they communicate directly with or invite students to be friends.

EMPLOYEE CONDUCT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR TECHNOLOGY USE

All employees and volunteers are subject to disciplinary action if their conduct relating to the use of technology or online resources violates this policy or any other applicable statutory, regulatory or policy provisions governing employee conduct. This includes, but is not limited to, unauthorized electronic communications.

The Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel requires certified staff to protect the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students and the confidentiality of student information. Any conduct in violation of this Code – particularly involving technology or online resources - must be reported to the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) as required by law and may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

REPORTING PROCEDURES – POLICY 08.2324

A District employee or volunteer who receives a report alleging that another District employee or volunteer has engaged in unauthorized electronic communication must immediately notify the appropriate authority:

1. If the subject of the report is a staff member, notify the Principal.
2. If the subject is the Principal, notify the Superintendent.
3. If the subject is the Superintendent, notify the Commissioner of Education and the Chair of the local Board.

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Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

COMMUNITY USE

On recommendation of the Superintendent/designee, the Board shall determine when and which District technology resources (including internet access, computer equipment, software, and information access systems) may be available to the community.

Upon request to the Principal/designee, community members may have access to the Internet and other electronic information sources and programs available through the District's technology system, provided they attend any required training and abide by the rules of usage established by the Superintendent/designee.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND RESPONSIBLE USE

All District technology users shall demonstrate safe, savvy, and social digital citizenship skills by practicing respectful, responsible, and ethical use of technology. The District will ensure comprehensive instruction on digital citizenship, focusing on the nine (9) elements of digital citizenship: Digital Access; Digital Commerce; Digital Communication & Collaboration; Digital Fluency; Digital Etiquette; Digital Law; Digital Rights and Responsibilities; Digital Health and Welfare; and Digital Security & Privacy, as well as cyberbullying awareness and response strategies, are provided. All digital citizenship instruction shall align with the Kentucky Academic Standards for Technology and be reviewed regularly to reflect current best practices and emerging technologies. The District shall support efforts to instill digital citizenship skills in students to foster a responsible, safe, and empowered digital learning environment. District-provided technology resources shall be used in a manner that upholds the integrity, security, and privacy of district systems and supports educational goals regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization.

DISREGARD OF RULES

Individuals who opt-out of required responsible use documents or who violate District rules governing the use of District technology shall be subject to loss or restriction of the privilege of using equipment, software, information access systems, or other computing and telecommunications technologies.

Employees and students shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination (employees) and expulsion (students) for violating this policy and acceptable use rules and regulations established by the school or District.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES

Individuals shall reimburse the Board for repair or replacement of District property lost, stolen, damaged, or vandalized while under their care. Students or staff members who deface a District web site or otherwise make unauthorized changes to a web site shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion and termination, as appropriate.

RESPONDING TO CONCERNS

School officials shall apply the same criterion of educational suitability used to review other educational resources when questions arise concerning access to specific databases or other electronic media.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

The District shall establish and maintain procedures that address the safe, secure and responsible uses of emerging technologies, including, but not limited to, artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-enhanced or generative AI features. These procedures shall be reviewed and updated regularly to ensure alignment with current technological advancements, fostering a proactive approach while emphasizing safeguards for student safety, data privacy, and ethical practices. Such procedures will support innovative strategies while addressing potential risks and maintaining the confidence of district stakeholders. Additionally, procedures will address the responsible use of these emerging technologies, including appropriate and inappropriate uses of AI (e.g., for inspiration vs. cheating, plagiarism).

AUDIT OF USE

Users with network access shall not utilize District resources to establish electronic mail accounts through third-party providers or any other nonstandard electronic mail system.

The Superintendent/designee shall establish a process to determine whether the District's education technology is being used for purposes prohibited by law or for accessing social media (unless authorized by a teacher for instructional purposes) and sexually explicit materials. The process shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Utilizing technology that meets the requirements of Kentucky Administrative Regulations and that blocks or filters internet access for both minors and adults to certain visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or, with respect to computers with Internet access by minors, harmful to minors. For instructional purposes, age/grade-level appropriateness and meets traceable/inspectable guidelines set forth in this and related policies;
2. Utilizing the latest available filtering technology to ensure that social media is not made available to students, unless authorized by a teacher for instructional purposes;
3. Maintaining and securing a usage log; and
4. Monitoring online activities of both minors and adults using District-owned or managed systems, regardless of the time, place, and means of utilization.

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RETENTION OF RECORDS FOR E-RATE PARTICIPANTS

Following initial adoption, this policy and documentation of implementation shall be retained for at least ten (10) years after the last day of service in a particular funding year.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy)

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.675; KRS 160.145; KRS 365.732; KRS 365.734
701 KAR 5:120
16 KAR 1:020 (Code of Ethics)
47 U.S.C. 254/Children's Internet Protection Act; 47 C.F.R. 54.520
Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS)
47 C.F.R. 54.516
15-ORD-190

RELATED POLICIES:

03.13214/03.23214
03.1325/03.2325
03.17/03.27
08.1353; 08.2322; 08.2324
09.14; 09.421; 09.422; 09.425; 09.426; 09.4261
10.5

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Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable Use Policy)

The Board supports reasonable access to various information formats for students, employees and the community and believes it is incumbent upon users to utilize this privilege in an appropriate and responsible manner as required by this policy and related procedures, which apply to all parties who use District technology.

SAFETY PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

The Superintendent shall develop and implement appropriate procedures to provide guidance for access to electronic media. Guidelines shall address teacher supervision of student computer use, ethical use of electronic media (including, but not limited to, the Internet, e-mail, and other District technological resources), and issues of privacy versus administrative review of electronic files and communications. In addition, guidelines shall prohibit utilization of networks for prohibited or illegal activities, the intentional spreading of embedded messages, or the use of other programs with the potential of damaging or destroying programs or data.

Students shall be provided instruction about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response, this is often referred to as Digital Citizenship, or Digital Driver's License (DDL).

Internet safety measures, which shall apply to all District-owned devices with Internet access or personal devices that are permitted to access the District's network, shall be implemented that effectively address the following:

- Controlling access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web;
- Safety and security of minors when they are using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- Preventing unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
- Restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them.

A technology protection measure may be disabled by the Board's designee during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purpose.

The District shall provide reasonable public notice of, and at least one (1) public hearing or meeting to address and communicate its initial Internet safety measures.

Specific expectations for appropriate Internet use shall be reflected in the District's code of acceptable behavior and discipline including appropriate orientation for staff and students.

PERMISSION/AGREEMENT FORM

An Electronic Access/User Agreement Form shall be required every school year, prior to the student being granted independent access to electronic media involving District technological resources.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable Use Policy)

PERMISSION/AGREEMENT FORM (CONTINUED)

The required permission/agreement form (referred to as AUP), which shall specify acceptable uses, rules of on-line behavior, access privileges, and penalties for policy/procedural violations, must be signed by the parent or legal guardian of minor students (those under 18 years of age) and also by the student. This document shall be kept on file as a legal, binding document. In order to modify or rescind the agreement, the student's parent/guardian (or the student who is at least 18 years old) must provide the Superintendent with a written request.

CHECKOUT OF SCHOOL OWNED ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices may be made available for student/employee checkout but shall be the responsibility of the person to whom the device is issued and be subject to all provisions set out in the policy and related procedures. In addition, a signed AUP form must be on file at the school or District level before an electronic device is issued to a student. Participants in the District 1:1 Program (Access 24) shall refer to the Access 24 Plan and Technology Responsible Use Expectations (TRUE) for guidelines and other information.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENT TECHNOLOGY USE

Teachers and others whose duties include classroom management and/or student supervision shall sign an Acceptable Use Policy agreement acknowledging responsibility for exercising reasonable supervision of student access to Internet and electronic mail. District internet content filtering devices shall not be treated as a substitute for classroom management and monitoring of student internet use.

Teachers shall not direct or advise students accessing school computing and communications networks to use third party email systems (Yahoo, Mail.com, or personal Gmail/Office 365 accounts) other than the Kentucky Education Technology System standard email system.

EMPLOYEE USE

Employees shall not use a code, access a file, or retrieve any stored communication unless they have been given authorization to do so. (Authorization is not required each time the electronic media is accessed in performance of one's duties.) Each employee is responsible for the security of his/her own password. Employees shall treat District passwords and student data with the utmost security.

Employees are encouraged to use electronic mail, internet access and other District technology resources to promote student learning and communication with the home and education-related entities. If those resources are used, they shall be used for purposes directly related to work-related activities.

Technology-based materials, activities and communication tools shall be appropriate for and within the range of the knowledge, understanding, age and maturity of students with whom they are used.

District employees and activity sponsors may set up blogs and other social networking accounts using District resources and following District guidelines to promote communications with students, parents, and the community concerning school-related activities and for the purpose of supplementing classroom instruction.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable Use Policy)

EMPLOYEE USE (CONTINUED)

Networking, communication, and other options offering instructional benefits may be used for the purpose of supplementing classroom instruction and to promote communications with students and parents concerning school-related activities.

In order for District employees and activity sponsors to utilize a social networking site for instructional, administrative or other work-related communication purposes, they shall comply with the following:

1. They shall request prior permission from the Superintendent/designee.
1. If permission is granted, staff members will set up the site following any District guidelines developed by the Superintendent's designee.
2. Guidelines may specify whether access to the site must be given to school/District technology staff.
3. If written parental consent is not otherwise granted through AUP forms provided by the District, staff shall notify parents of the site and obtain written permission for students to become "friends" prior to the students being granted access. This permission shall be kept on file at the school as determined by the Principal.
4. Once the site has been created, the sponsoring staff member is responsible for the following:
 1. Monitoring and managing the site to promote safe and acceptable use; and
 2. Observing confidentiality restrictions concerning release of student information under state and federal law.

Staff members are discouraged from creating personal social networking sites to which they invite students to be friends. Employees taking such action do so at their own risk.

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Any form of communication with students must be consistent with 16 KAR 1:010, Standards for Certified School Personnel (the Kentucky Teacher Code of Ethics).

Staff members are prohibited from extending invitations to or accepting invitations from students on any "personal social networking sites" that does not serve a legitimate professional, or educational purpose unless the student's parent/guardian has knowledge of the communication and gives specific permission for same. Staff members may create a classroom "fan or professional" page to communicate with students and parents information directly relating to classroom and school activities. The staff member's page shall be separate from his/her personal networking page. Employees creating such pages are responsible for all content posted on the website. Any social networking site, blog or other emerging technology used to communicate with students and parents shall include the disclaimer "This site is not monitored on a 24/7 basis". ALL school personnel are required by KRS 620.030 to report to the proper authorities either orally or in writing any knowledge of a student who is in danger of being harmed by himself/herself or another or any student who is neglected. This would include information gathered from a social networking site.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable Use Policy)

EMPLOYEE USE (CONTINUED)

Employees shall not use any form of communications (phone/cell, phone/texting, or email) to discuss items of a "personal" nature with students that does not serve a legitimate professional, or educational purpose, unless the student's parent/guardian has knowledge of the communication and gives specific permission for same.

All employees shall be subject to disciplinary action if their conduct relating to use of technology or online resources violates this policy or other applicable policy, statutory or regulatory provisions governing employee conduct. The Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel requires certified staff to protect the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students and confidentiality of student information. Conduct in violation of this Code, including, but not limited to, such conduct relating to the use of technology or online resources, must be reported to Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) as required by law and may form the basis for disciplinary action up to and including termination.

COMMUNITY USE

On recommendation of the Superintendent/designee, the Board shall determine when and which computer equipment, software, and information access systems will be available to the community.

Upon request to the Principal/designee, community members may have access to the Internet and other electronic information sources and programs available through the District's technology system, provided they attend any required training and abide by the rules of usage established by the Superintendent/designee.

DISREGARD OF RULES

Individuals who refuse to sign required acceptable use documents or who violate District rules governing the use of District technology shall be subject to loss or restriction of the privilege of using equipment, software, information access systems, or other computing and telecommunications technologies.

Employees and students shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination (employees) and expulsion (students) for violating this policy and acceptable use rules and regulations established by the school or District.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DAMAGES

Individuals shall reimburse the Board for repair or replacement of District property lost, stolen, damaged, or vandalized while under their care. Students or staff members who deface a District web site or otherwise make unauthorized changes to a web site shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion and termination, as appropriate.

RESPONDING TO CONCERNS

School officials shall apply the same criterion of educational suitability used to review other educational resources when questions arise concerning access to specific databases or other electronic media.

Access to Electronic Media

(Acceptable Use Policy)

AUDIT OF USE

~~Users with network access shall not utilize District resources to establish and/or access electronic mail accounts through third-party providers or any other nonstandard electronic mail system, unless permission is granted by the District Technology Coordinator/CIO.~~

~~The Superintendent/designee shall establish a process to determine whether the District's education technology is being used for purposes prohibited by law or for accessing sexually explicit materials. The process shall include, but not be limited to:~~

- ~~1. Utilizing technology that meets requirements of Kentucky Administrative Regulations and that blocks or filters internet access for both minors and adults to certain visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or, with respect to computers with Internet access by minors, harmful to minors; for~~
- ~~1. Maintaining and securing a usage log; and~~
- ~~2. Monitoring online activities of minors.~~

RETENTION OF RECORDS FOR E-RATE PARTICIPANTS

~~Following initial adoption, this policy and documentation of implementation shall be retained for at least ten (10) years after the last day of service in a particular funding year.~~

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.675; KRS 365.732; KRS 365.734
701 KAR 5:120
16 KAR 1:020 (Code of Ethics)
47 U.S.C. 254/Children's Internet Protection Act; 47 C.F.R. 54.520
Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS)
47 C.F.R. 54.516
15 ORD 190

RELATED POLICIES:

03.133214; 03.23214; 03.1325; 03.2325; 03.17; 03.27
08.1353; 08.2322; 08.2324
09.14; 09.421; 09.422; 09.425; 09.426; 09.4261
10.5

LEGAL: SB 181 CREATES A NEW SECTION OF KRS 160 DIRECTING EACH BOARD TO DESIGNATE ONE OR MORE PROGRAMS OR APPLICATIONS AS A TRACEABLE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM THAT SHALL BE THE EXCLUSIVE MEANS FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS TO COMMUNICATE ELECTRONICALLY WITH STUDENTS.
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION PROGRAMS AND SYSTEMS

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.2324

Traceable Communications

The Board shall designate a traceable communication system to be the exclusive means for District employees and volunteers to communicate electronically with students. The Principal of each school shall provide parents written or electronic notification within the first ten (10) days of the school year of each electronic school notification and communication program designated within the traceable communication system. The notification shall include instructions for parents to access and review communications sent through each electronic school notification and communication program.

A District employee or volunteer, unless authorized, shall not communicate electronically with a student:

1. Outside of the traceable communication system designated by the Board; or
2. Through an unauthorized electronic communication program or application.

This shall not restrict any electronic communications between a student and his or her family member who is a District employee or volunteer.

DEFINITIONS

Family

“Family member” means parent, brother, sister, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, or grandparent.

Parent

“Parent” means parent, legal guardian, or other person or agency responsible for a student.

District Employee or Volunteer

“District employee or volunteer” means a school administrator, classified or certified employee volunteer, nonfaculty coach or assistant coach, student teacher, or sponsor of an extracurricular program or activity.

Traceable Communication System

“Traceable communication system” means one (1) or more electronic school notification and communication programs or applications that:

- a. Are designated by a Board of Education;
- b. Trace all communications sent to or by a student; and
- c. Provide parents an opportunity to access and review those communications.

UNAUTHORIZED ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

“Unauthorized electronic communication” means an electronic communication with a student by a District employee or volunteer who is not the student's family member that occurs outside of a designated traceable communication system and without prior written parental consent; and includes any personal email account, text messaging, social media, or other electronic notification and communication programs outside of the traceable communication system.

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Traceable Communications

CONSENT TO AUTHORIZE

A parent may submit written consent to authorize a designated District employee or volunteer who is not a family member to communicate electronically with his or her child outside of the traceable communication system.

REPORTING

A District employee or volunteer that receives a report alleging that another District employee or volunteer participated in unauthorized electronic communication shall immediately notify the Principal.

If the subject of the report is the Principal, the employee or volunteer shall immediately notify the Superintendent.

If the subject of the report is the Superintendent, the employee or volunteer shall immediately notify the Commissioner of Education and the Chair of the local Board.

Upon receipt of a report alleging that a District employee or volunteer participated in unauthorized electronic communication, the Commissioner of Education, a Principal, or the Superintendent shall immediately:

1. Notify the parent of each student that is an alleged party to the unauthorized electronic communications; and
2. If the individual that is the subject of the report is a certified employee:
 - a. Notify the Education Professional Standards Board, which shall promptly investigate all allegations received under this subsection and proceed with appropriate disciplinary actions in accordance with KRS 160.145; and
 - b. Investigate the underlying allegations and proceed with appropriate disciplinary actions in accordance with KRS 161.790;
3. If the individual that is the subject of the report is a classified employee, investigate the underlying allegations and proceed with appropriate disciplinary actions in accordance with KRS 161.011(7); and
4. If the individual that is the subject of the report is a District volunteer, the school or District shall investigate the underlying allegations and, if substantiated, the volunteer shall be prohibited from future school and District volunteer opportunities.

A Principal or Superintendent who violates shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with KRS 161.120 and KRS 156.132.

REFERENCES:

KRS 156.132

KRS 160.145

KRS 161.011; KRS 161.120; KRS 161.790

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

08.2324

(CONTINUED)

Traceable Communications

RELATED POLICIES:

03.1321; 3.13214; 03.1325; 03.162; 03.17

03.2321; 03.23214; 03.2325; 03.262; 03.2621; 03.27

03.6

08.13531; 08.2323