

Corvallis School District

PERSONNEL

5460

Electronic Resources and Social Networking

The Corvallis School District uses electronic resources as powerful and compelling educational tools. While social networking websites, texting, and similar electronic communication tools can offer learning opportunities, problems and dangers may result from the use of this technology. The widespread popularity of these technologies has created potential liabilities for educators.

By maintaining professional standards of behavior, potential liabilities may be mitigated. The Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics requires District staff to maintain a professional relationship with each student, both in and outside the classroom. The District encourages all staff to read and become familiar with the Code of Ethics.

District staff is advised and expected to maintain professional relationships with students. The School Board discourages district staff from socializing with students on social networking websites (during school or out-of-school). Staff is further reminded that the same types of relationships, exchanges, interactions, or behavior that would be unacceptable in a non-technological medium are unacceptable in a technological medium, in or out of school. Due to the vastly increased potential audience and the potential blurring of the professional relationship in digital communication, extra caution must be exercised by staff. Violation of professional standards may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination, discharge or nonrenewal of the contract of employment.

The Board directs the Superintendent or his/her designee to provide appropriate staff development opportunities and to maintain procedures to support this policy.

Cross Reference:	5015	Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation
	5223	Personal Conduct
	5255	Disciplinary Action
	5450	Employee Electronic Mail and Online Services Usage
	5450F	Code of Ethics for Electronic Mail and Online Services
		<i>Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics</i>

Policy History:

Adopted on: 2-6-2012

Reviewed on:

Revised on: