

Digital Technology, Consent and Privacy

Policy No. 401.1

Background

The Board of Education recognizes that digital technology supports and enhances learning and strengthens District operations. However, the rapidly evolving nature and ease of accessibility of online technology presents challenges in managing privacy, acceptable use, and ensuring secure networks.

This policy and its accompanying regulations seek to establish clear guidelines for District users' responsible use of digital technology.

Scope

This policy encompasses students, parents, guardians, caregivers, staff, volunteers, guests, Parent Advisory Councils, Trustees and others who are given access to District digital technologies, regardless of whether access is onsite or offsite.

Digital technologies include:

- Access to the District's wired and wireless network from any location, such as schools, workplaces, home or other offsite locations;
- District computers, laptops, mobile devices, tablets, system networks, printers and other related technologies;
- District software, applications and other digital platforms, including internet access.

Guiding Principles

- District digital technology is only intended for educational, instructional, business or operational uses.
- Every user of digital technology within the school District is expected to use technology responsibly, ethically, and legally. This includes respecting the rights and privacy of others, academic integrity, and adhering to all relevant legislation, regulations, and policies.
- The District may restrict the use of digital technology to users to maintain productive, safe, respectful, and positive working and learning environments.
- Personal information of students and staff is protected under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) and the School Act. The District shall, and expects all employees to, carefully manage all personal information and how it is collected, used, and released.
- The District monitors District digital technology for security, maintenance, troubleshooting and improvement purposes, and may access or view user activities or materials created or maintained within its systems for these purposes, and to ensure compliance with this policy and to investigate and respond to complaints or incidents of misconduct.
- Those who use Digital Technology for personal purposes do so at their own risk. The School District does not guarantee the privacy or security of such materials when created or maintained using School digital technology.