

CHAPTER 5.00 - STUDENTS

STUDENT USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

5.381

The Sarasota County School Board allows schools and the District Communications Department to use online social media to provide information to district families, students, staff and other members of the Sarasota County Schools community. Students may be permitted access to these accounts if necessary for academic purposes or to conduct school business.

I. Definitions

- A. “Social media” include various online communications sites that enable subscribers to provide information immediately through the Internet to an unknown number of fellow subscribers.
- B. “District technology” is technology owned or provided by the Sarasota County School District.
- C. “Personal technology” is any device that is owned by the user or provided by a third party other than the District

II. Acceptable Use

- A. District rules described in School Board Policies and Procedures, the Code of Student Conduct, the District Acceptable Use Policy, and District Student Social Media Guidelines, including consequences for violations, also apply to student conduct on district-related social media sites.
- B. The contents of the District technology system are public records. District technology may only be used for legitimate school business. Users have no expectation of privacy.
- C. Messages distributed with personal technology or originating off school property may nevertheless warrant disciplinary action if school or district authorities reasonably believe the content of the message has caused or will cause actual, material disruption of school activities, interferes with staff members’ ability to perform their job duties or otherwise violates law.

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III. Control of Personal Information

- A. While using District technology, students shall not disclose their personal contact information or the personal contact information of others that would allow a recipient to locate the student, including his or her family name, home address or location, school address or location, work address or phone number.
- B. Students are advised to follow the rules described in section A in their use of personal technology as well.

IV. System Security

Students are responsible for their individual District electronic media account and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from using their account. Under no circumstances should students give their password to another person. Students shall immediately notify a teacher or administrator if they identify a security problem.

V. Resource Limits

Students shall not download large files without permission of a teacher or administrator. Students shall not misuse District or school distribution lists or discussion groups by sending irrelevant messages.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

1001.41, 1001.42, F.S.

LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED:

**1001.43, 1003.04, 1003.31, 1006.07,
1006.08, 1006.09, 1006.145, 1006.147 F.S.**

DISTRICT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

**Policy 5.38
District Acceptable Use Policy
Code of Student Conduct
Student Social Media Guidelines
School Student Handbooks**

HISTORY:

**ADOPTED:
FORMERLY: NEW**