



STUDENT USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

It is the policy of the New Frontiers School Board to provide access to safe and secure digital technology in support of education, research, and school board business in a manner consistent with the School Board’s Mission and Vision. For the purpose of this policy, digital technology is defined as the ever-evolving suite of digital software, hardware, computer and network infrastructures (existing and emerging technologies) used at the New Frontiers School Board (NFSB).

All users of Board-provided electronic communication tools shall familiarize themselves and abide by this policy and Policy EGA “Employee Use of Information & Communication Technology & Social Media”.

NFSB recognizes the educational value of student use of electronic communications systems to enhance their learning through the responsible access to global information and communication. This network is intended to support and enhance student learning and achievement, be made available equitably to all students, and be a support to classroom and other learning activities.

All students are expected to use digital technology in a responsible, respectful and lawful manner, which must be in compliance with all relevant federal and provincial legislation (Law 19). In addition, employees are well informed of legislation such as FOIPP, Bill c-11 (Canadian copyright legislation) and the Education Act.

The Board further recognizes the critical role that parents play in educating their children on the appropriate use of electronic communication systems and in monitoring their use of these systems. This partnership of parents and schools is essential in achieving success in ensuring appropriate use of this ever-changing technology.

Specific Aspects

Digital Understanding	This policy supports the Digital Citizenship program in the development of a positive digital identity for all students and employees to adhere to throughout the evolving use of digital technology.
Digital Devices	NFSB recognizes that students may have in their possession personal digital and/or electronic devices while at school or at school related activities. This Policy also governs the acceptable use of personal digital technologies and/or electronic devices by students while at school or at school related activities. At all times, the use of these devices is allowed where they are deemed not to interfere with their personal learning or the learning of others. Staff at the school and at the Board level shall determine what, if any, use is interfering with learning.
Digital Content	NFSB provides schools with access to the Board’s digital network that also includes access to all electronic communication systems, such as, Internet, e-mail, Board-approved social networks, and intranet. This service enables students and staff access to electronic mail (e-mail), numerous electronic databases and other social networking tools to facilitate and promote collaboration for educational purposes. In addition, it provides users with access to an ever-expanding array of digital content and provides the possibility of communication with others in the school, in the local community and around the globe. For purposes of inspecting, investigating or searching the NFSB’s digital technologies, including but not limited to internet logs, social networks or electronic mail, with just cause, the Directors of Education (or their designate) may authorize appropriate officials to bypass any applicable personal password or codes in accordance with the best interests of the School Board, its students, or where ordered to do so by law.

Specific Aspects cont'd

Social Media	<p>The New Frontiers School Board is committed to supporting student use of electronic social media to interact knowledgeably and responsibly as it is recognized that part of 21st century learning is adapting to the changing methods of communication. Electronic communication and social media create new options for extending and enhancing education; when used responsibly its use by students is recognized as a viable means to involve peers, parents, and teachers in academic dialogue.</p> <p>The Board recognizes that all employees are role models and that parents entrust them with the duty to educate their children. The use of electronic communication and social media has the potential to affect this trust and as such, it is expected that social media be used appropriately. All students are expected to represent themselves in electronic social media the same way they would in person and to maintain the ethical standards of care, trust, respect and integrity.</p>
--------------	--

Non-compliance by students with this Policy may result in sanctions and/or the imposition of appropriate discipline.

Discipline

Individuals who do not comply with this Policy will be subject to appropriate consequences in accordance with the circumstances of the event, and within the parameters of any applicable legislation. Consequences may include, but are not limited to the following, either singularly or in combination depending on the individual circumstances:

- Sanctions applied based on school's code of conduct;
- Limitations placed on access privileges to the Board's technology resources;
- Temporary suspension of access privileges to the Board's technology resources;
- Revocation of access privileges to the Board's technology resources;
- Appropriate disciplinary measures within Law 19; and
- Legal action and prosecution by the relevant authorities.