

Lewistown School District

PERSONNEL

5460

Electronic Resources and Social Networking

The Lewistown Public School District uses electronic resources as powerful and compelling educational tools. While social networking websites, texting, and the like 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 are advised and expected to maintain professional relationships with students. Staff are 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 non-renewal of the contract of employment.

All school district employees who participate in social networking websites, shall not post any school district data, documents, photographs, logos, or other district owned or created information on any website unless authorized by administration.

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 M

[Professional Educators of Montana Code of Ethics](#)

Policy History:

Adopted on: May 14, 2012

Revised on: