

POLICY NAME	Student Use of Digital Technology (JIHJ)
Original approval date	2015-02-03
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Related documents	

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- 1.1 The New Frontiers School Board (NFSB) aims to provide access to safe and secure digital technology to align with the NFSB's Mission, Vision, and Values. This policy outlines expectations for the responsible, safe and ethical use of digital technology to support learning.
- 1.2 The NFSB recognizes both the educational value, and the responsibilities associated with students' use of digital technology. These systems are intended to support and enrich student learning and achievement and be made available as equitably as possible to all students.
- 1.3 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.
- 1.4 In accordance with provincial regulation, elementary and high school students are not permitted to use Personal Mobile Devices while on school premises or outside on school grounds or buildings during school activities, from the beginning to the end of the school day.
- 1.5 The NFSB recognizes the critical role that families play in guiding and monitoring students' appropriate use of digital technology. A strong partnership between home and school/centre is essential in ensuring that students use these ever-changing technologies responsibly and effectively.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 For the purpose of this Policy, the following terms will have the following meanings:
 - 2.1.1 Digital Technology: Any electronic device, software, or online platform that is used for educational purposes;
 - 2.1.2 Personal Mobile Devices: Any electronic devices such as cellphones, laptops, smartphones, earphones, smartwatches that belong to the student;
 - 2.1.3 Artificial Intelligence (AI): According to The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a machine-based system that can, for a given set of human-defined objectives, make predictions, recommendations, or decisions influencing real or virtual environments;
 - 2.1.4 Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI): According to UNESCO, an AI technology that automatically generates content in response to prompts written in natural-language conversational interfaces.

3. POLICY CONTENT

- 3.1. The NFSB provides schools and centres with access to the NFSB's digital network that also includes access to all electronic communication systems, such as, Internet, e-mail, NFSB-approved social networks, and others. This service enables students to access e-mail in addition to NFSB-approved tools that facilitate and promote collaboration for educational purposes.
- 3.2 The NFSB will not provide installers, license keys, or support installing any NFSB-approved software, hardware on any Personal Mobile Devices.
- 3.3 The NFSB recognizes that students may have in their possession personal digital and/or electronic devices while at school/centre or at school/centre-related activities. At all times, the use of these devices is prohibited unless they are approved for personal learning or the learning of others.
- 3.4 The NFSB 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/guardians, and teachers in academic dialogue. 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.

- 3.5 The NFSB recognizes that students can benefit from the exploration and use of AI in their digital learning. However, AI use is at the discretion of the classroom teacher. It is important that students use AI and GAI in a safe and responsible manner. Students should be mindful of the personal information they are entering into GAI. Students are required to use only NFSB-approved GAI models.
- 3.6 Students must use the digital technology loaned to them by the NFSB (iPads, tablets, laptops or other) in a responsible and respectful manner. All students must ensure that their digital conduct is in line with NFSB's mission, policies, and applicable student codes of conduct. Each student is responsible for the content they create with the use of their digital technology in addition to the content created on their personal devices.
- 3.7 Students may not, at any time, use their NFSB or personal devices to:
- 3.7.1 Post, repost, share, or publish messages, images, videos, photos or audio depicting their school/centre, fellow students or staff members without explicit permission from the individuals involved and/or the school/centre, both on and off campus;
 - 3.7.2 Engage in cyber-bullying, intimidation or, harassment of any kind;
 - 3.7.3 Engage in any activity that can be construed as racist or sexist;
 - 3.7.4 Engage in any activity that violates the privacy or well-being of another person;
 - 3.7.5 Access, download or send offensive, sexually explicit, threatening, obscene or pornographic material;
 - 3.7.6 Use a school/centre account (e-mail or other) for any commercial or illegal activity;
 - 3.7.7 Access or attempt to access someone else's account;
 - 3.7.8 Vandalize, hack, or attempt to gain unauthorized access to school/centre computers, software, network or system;
 - 3.7.9 Create misleading content. It is strictly forbidden to use images of staff or other students to create media or content generated by AI that may be misleading. This includes, but is not limited to, images, videos or other forms of media that alter reality and produce false or misleading statements/context.
- 3.8 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 Director of Systems & IT Services (or their designate) may authorize appropriate officials to bypass any applicable personal password or codes in accordance with the best interests of the NFSB, its students, or where ordered to do so by law.
- 3.9 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:
- 3.9.1 Sanctions applied based on school/centre's code of conduct;
 - 3.9.2 Limitations placed on access privileges to the NFSB's technology resources;
 - 3.9.3 Temporary suspension of access privileges to the NFSB's technology resources;
 - 3.9.4 Revocation of access privileges to the NFSB's technology resources;
 - 3.9.5 Legal action and prosecution by the relevant authorities.

4. AUTHORITY

This Policy is administered under the authority of the Director responsible for Systems & Information Technology.

5. REVIEW

The Director responsible for Systems & Information Technology will review this Policy at least once every five (5) years.

End.