

Regional School Unit 73 Board of Directors	CODE: GCSB Page 1
SUBJECT: USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES	
DATE OF ORIGINAL POLICY: 2017 DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: 2022 CANCELS POLICY CODE: None REVISION DATE:	
JURISDICTION: RSU 73 Schools	

POLICY: USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

The School Board recognizes that social media sites have become important means of communication with potential educational value. This policy sets forth expectations for school employees when using social media for school-related and personal purposes. Employees are expected to preserve the integrity of the learning environment and shall maintain professional boundaries with students at all times.

"Social media" shall mean technology and/or Internet-based tool(s) for sharing and/or discussing information among users, and includes, but is not limited to, web pages, social networking, blogs, forums, social bookmarking, image sharing applications, and social news sites.

A. Approval Procedure

The use of social media for school-related purposes requires pre-approval in accordance with this policy.

A school employee who desires to use social media for school-related purposes shall submit a proposal and request for approval to his/her building principal/supervisor. Proposals for the school-related use of social media should include an articulated educational purpose and be appropriate to the students' ages, level(s) of understanding, and range(s) of knowledge. Use of social media with students is limited to grades seven and higher. Any student under 13 needs parent permission to access approved social media.

The building principal/supervisor or designee may approve, deny, or approve with modification the proposal. The decision of the building principal/supervisor will be in writing and the decision shall be final. Any later modifications to a proposal that has been approved must also be pre-approved by the building principal/supervisor. The building principal/supervisor may withdraw his or her approval at any time for any reason.

Approved proposals for the school-related use of social media shall be resubmitted annually by September 30th for review and approval.

