Halifax Regional School Board

CODE: C.013
Program

Digital Citizenship Policy

Policy Overview

The Digital Citizenship policy is intended to help teachers, parents/guardians and students understand what individuals should know in order to use technology in a meaningful, responsible and respectful manner. This knowledge will enhance our students' abilities to become contributing members of society.

The Digital Citizenship policy outlines the Halifax Regional School Board's (HRSB) direction to promote safe, positive and effective learning environments while using resources like the internet and digital devices. While many other provincial and board policies address instruction, student behaviour and learning resources, this policy is intended to give direction to ensure the school community explicitly talks about digital citizenship in the context of changing educational strategies and resources in schools.

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Policy and Procedures History

The Digital Citizenship Policy and Procedures were approved in June 2016.

1.0 Legislative Context

The Digital Citizenship Policy aligns and complies with the following:

1.1 *Nova Scotia Education Act 2014*
1.2 *Freedom of Information and Protection of privacy Act 2012*
1.3 *Personal Information International Disclosure Protection Act 2010*
1.4 *Nova Scotia Copyright Act 2016*
1.5 *N.S. Provincial School Code of Conduct 2015*
1.6 *F.007 Acceptable Use of Computers and Internet/Intranet Technology Policy*
1.7 *HRSB Learning Resources Selection Guidelines, 2015*
1.8 *Nova Scotia Public School Program*

2.0 Principles

2.1 The HRSB will provide students with the opportunities and skills necessary to be successful in a digital world.

2.2 Digital learning environments that are innovative, engaging and enriching for students include opportunities to:

- 2.2.1 support equity and access for all learners;
- 2.2.2 communicate skillfully;
- 2.2.3 think creatively, critically and reflectively;
- 2.2.4 develop a positive sense of personal identity and respect for self and others;
- 2.2.5 design culturally responsive learning connected to real-world experiences;
- 2.2.6 activate individual passions and interests; and
- 2.2.7 deepen understandings of diverse cultures.

2.3 Access and use of information and communication technology are essential for teaching and learning.

2.4 Student learning will be enhanced through the use of information and communication technology.

2.5 The HRSB will focus on using current and emerging/social media technologies effectively and appropriately.

2.6 The HRSB will support and encourage the appropriate use of student-owned devices in the learning environment.

2.7 The HRSB recognizes individuals have a personal responsibility to use technology in meaningful, responsible and respectful ways in order to demonstrate positive digital citizenship.

3.0 Authorization

3.1 The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement procedures in support of this policy.

4.0 Policy Review

4.1 This policy shall be reviewed every three (3) years or on an as needed basis.

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Digital Citizenship
Procedures

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1.0 Resources

1.1 Schools will be supported with wireless infrastructure and modern learning tools;

1.2 Schools will support students to use personal learning devices;

1.3 Schools will be provided with resources to support teaching students about digital citizenship

1.4 Professional Development will include modern strategies to incorporate the proper use of technology in classrooms

2.0 Principal's Responsibilities

2.1 Review the Digital Citizenship policy with teachers annually;

2.2 Support conversations in their school community about meaningful, responsible and respectful on-line behaviour;

2.3 Set expectations with teachers for instruction with modern resources;

2.4 Share expectations with the school community about use and misuse of technology;

2.5 Facilitate conversation with the School Advisory Council and community groups about positive digital citizenship and strategies to support that at home and in school;

2.6 Include information about Nova Scotia Virtual School in course selection handbooks.

3.0 Teacher's Responsibilities

3.1 Provide opportunities for students to demonstrate achievement of Information Communication Technology outcomes;

3.2 Support conversations with students and parents/guardians about meaningful, responsible and respectful on-line behaviour;

3.3 Discuss expectations with students about the ***use*** of personal devices in school (meaningful, responsible use);

3.4 Educate students about the ***misuse*** of personal devices; i.e. use that is not meaningful, is irresponsible, and potentially harmful;

3.5 Inform parents/guardians about classroom expectations regarding the use of personal devices and their importance in learning;

3.6 Instruct and model digital citizenship and responsibility;

3.7 Use technology as a teaching tool to support various learning styles;

3.8 Engage with colleagues and students to encourage collaboration through the use of technology.

4.0 Student's Responsibilities

4.1 Participate actively in classroom experiences, including using available technology;

4.2 Demonstrate digital citizenship through meaningful, responsible and respectful use of technology;

4.3 Cooperate and collaborate with other students and teachers to support and extend the use of technology in learning.