

Afton Central School Social Networking Guidelines (Staff)

The following guidelines cover any web application, site or account created and maintained by the Afton CSD, which facilitates an environment for staff and student users to share opinions and information about school-related materials and activities. This can include, but is not limited to, blogging, instant messaging, social networking sites, and wikis. Teachers are advised to maintain an appropriate teacher-student relationship if corresponding with students on any social network, not just those maintained by the district. Social networking sites (such as Facebook, Twitter, Myspace, etc.) and instant messaging are blocked by the district's Internet filter and are **not an option for school/curriculum use** unless approved by an administrator.

Blogging and wikis are an acceptable curriculum tool at Afton CSD. Teachers should maintain and monitor their blog sites, ensuring that all staff and student posts are an appropriate reflection of our school and community (before publishing when possible). While the school district recognizes and respects differences in opinion, all such interactions will be monitored and reviewed periodically for content and relevancy by administration. All postings should comply with the Computer Resources and Data Management Regulation (8630-R). Posts containing any of the following information will be removed and the person posting may be subject to disciplinary action:

- Obscene or racist content
- Personal attacks, insults, or threatening language
- Potentially libelous statements
- Plagiarized material or copy-written material
- Private, personal information published without consent
- Comments totally unrelated to the content of the forum
- Hyperlinks to material that is not directly related to the discussion
- Commercial promotions or spam
- Organized political activity
- Photos or other images that fall in any of the above categories

In addition, Afton CSD reserves the right to edit or modify any postings or comments for space or content, while retaining the intent of the original post. The District shall also be granted the right to reproduce comments, posts, and messages in other public venues. Afton CSD assumes no liability regarding any event or interaction that takes place by any participant in any District-sponsored social networking service, and does not endorse or review content outside the "pages" created by Afton CSD staff. Participation in Afton CSD social networking services implies agreement with all District policies, including its *Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Agreement*. If a user does not agree to these terms, they are not to use the services provided.

The role and utility of social networking sites will be evaluated periodically by the Technology Committee and administration, and may be terminated at any time without notice to subscribers.