

Digital Human Library

Terms of Use

2012-2013

The Digital Human Library (dHL) recognizes that access to technology in school gives students and teachers greater opportunities to learn, engage, communicate, and develop skills that will prepare them for work, life, and citizenship. We are committed to helping students develop 21st-century technology and communication skills.

To that end, we provide access to technologies for staff and student use. The *Terms of Use* outlines the guidelines and behaviors that users are expected to follow when using school technologies or when using personally-owned devices on the school grounds.

By agreeing to the Digital Human Library's *Terms of Use*, you are also agreeing to the Avon Maitland District School Board's Administrative Procedure 110: Websites and Social Media Policy. [AMDSB Administrative Procedure No. 110: Websites and Social Media](#)

Terms of Use

- The dHL network is intended for educational purposes.
- All activity over the network or using district technologies may be monitored and retained.
- Access to online content via the network may be restricted in accordance with our policies and federal regulations.
- Staff and students are expected to follow the same rules for good behavior and respectful conduct online as offline.
- Misuse of school resources can result in disciplinary action.
- The dHL makes a reasonable effort to ensure staff and students' safety and security online, but will not be held accountable for any harm or damages that result from misuse of school technologies.
- Users of the dHL network or other technologies are expected to alert Leigh Cassell (leigh.cassell@gmail.com) immediately of any concerns for safety or security.

Technologies Covered

The dHL may provide access to web sites, videoconferencing capabilities, online collaboration capabilities, social networking, message boards, email, blog access, web links, and more.

As new technologies emerge, the dHL will attempt to provide access to them. The policies outlined in this document are intended to cover

all available technologies, not just those specifically listed.

Usage Policies

All technologies provided by the dHL are intended for educational purposes. All users are expected to use good judgment and to follow the specifics of this document as well as the spirit of it: be safe, appropriate, careful and kind; don't try to get around technological protection measures; use good common sense; and ask if you don't know.

Web Access

The dHL provides its users with access to the Internet, including web sites, resources, content, and online tools. That access will be restricted in compliance AMDSB policies. Web browsing may be monitored and web activity records may be retained indefinitely.

Users are expected to respect that the web filter is a safety precaution, and should not try to circumvent it when browsing the Web. If a site is blocked and a user believes it shouldn't be, the user should follow protocol to alert an IT staff member or submit the site for review.

Email

The dHL may provide users with email accounts for the purpose of school-related communication. Availability and use may be restricted based on school policies.

If users are provided with email accounts, they should be used with care. Users should not send personal information; should not attempt to open files or follow links from unknown or untrusted origin; should use appropriate language; and should only communicate with other people as allowed by the district policy or the teacher.

Users are expected to communicate with the same appropriate, safe, mindful, courteous conduct online as offline. Email usage may be monitored and archived.

Social / Web 2.0 / Collaborative Content

Recognizing that collaboration is essential to education, the dHL may provide users with access to web sites or tools that allow communication, collaboration, sharing, and messaging among users.

Users are expected to communicate with the same appropriate, safe, mindful, courteous conduct online as offline. Posts, chats, sharing, and messaging may be monitored. Users should be careful not to share personally-identifying information online.

Mobile Devices Policy

The dHL may provide users with mobile computers or other devices to

promote learning both inside and outside of the classroom. Users should abide by the same acceptable use policies when using school devices off the school network as on the school network.

Users are expected to treat these devices with extreme care and caution; these are expensive devices that the school is entrusting to your care. Users should report any loss, damage, or malfunction to IT staff immediately. Users may be financially accountable for any damage resulting from negligence or misuse.

Use of school-issued mobile devices, including use of the school network, may be monitored.

Security

Users are expected to take reasonable safeguards against the transmission of security threats over the school network. This includes not opening or distributing infected files or programs and not opening files or programs of unknown or untrusted origin.

If you believe a computer or mobile device you are using might be infected with a virus, please alert IT. Do not attempt to remove the virus yourself or download any programs to help remove the virus.

Downloads

Users should not download or attempt to download or run .exe programs over the school network or onto school resources without express permission from IT staff.

For the security of our network, download such files only from reputable sites, and only for educational purposes.

Netiquette

- Users should always use the Internet, network resources, and online sites in a courteous and respectful manner.
- Users should also recognize that among the valuable content online is unverified, incorrect, or inappropriate content. Users should use trusted sources when conducting research via the Internet.
- Users should also remember not to post anything online that they wouldn't want parents, teachers, or future colleges or employers to see. Once something is online, it's out there—and can sometimes be shared and spread in ways you never intended.

Plagiarism

- Users should not plagiarize (or use as their own, without citing the original creator) content, including words or images, from the Internet.
- Users should not take credit for things they didn't create themselves, or misrepresent themselves as an author or creator of something found

online. Research conducted via the Internet should be appropriately cited, giving credit to the original author.

Personal Safety

If you see a message, comment, image, or anything else online that makes you concerned for your personal safety, bring it to the attention of your principal, or another staff member at school immediately.

- Users should never share personal information, including phone number, address, social insurance number, birthday, or financial information, over the Internet
- Users should recognize that communicating over the Internet brings anonymity and associated risks, and should carefully safeguard the personal information of themselves and others.
- Users should never agree to meet someone they meet online in real life

Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying will not be tolerated. Harassing, dissing, flaming, denigrating, impersonating, outing, tricking, excluding, and cyberstalking are all examples of cyberbullying. Don't send emails or post comments with the intent of scaring, hurting, or intimidating someone else.

Engaging in these behaviors, or any online activities intended to harm (physically or emotionally) another person, will result in severe disciplinary action and loss of privileges. In some cases, cyberbullying can be a crime. Remember that your activities are monitored and retained.

Examples of Acceptable Use

I will:

- Use school technologies for school-related activities and research.
- Follow the same guidelines for respectful, responsible behavior online that I am expected to follow offline.
- Treat school resources carefully, and alert other staff if there is any problem with their operation.
- Encourage positive, constructive discussion if allowed to use communicative or collaborative technologies.
- Alert other staff if you experience threatening/bullying, inappropriate, or harmful content (images, messages, posts) online.
- Use school technologies at appropriate times, in approved places, for educational pursuits only.
- Cite sources when using online sites and resources for research; ensure there is no copyright infringement.
- Recognize that use of school technologies is a privilege and treat it as such.
- Be cautious to protect the safety of myself and others.
- Help to protect the security of school resources.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Users should use their own

good judgment when using school technologies.

Examples of Unacceptable Use

I will **not**:

- Use school technologies in a way that could be personally or physically harmful to myself or others.
- Search inappropriate images or content.
- Engage in cyberbullying, harassment, or disrespectful conduct toward others--staff or students.
- Try to find ways to circumvent the school's safety measures and filtering tools.
- Use school technologies to send spam or chain mail.
- Plagiarize content I find online.
- Post personally-identifying information, about myself or others.
- Agree to meet in real life someone I have met online.
- Use language online that would be unacceptable in the classroom.
- Use school technologies for illegal activities or to pursue information on such activities.
- Attempt to hack or access sites, servers, accounts, or content that isn't intended for my use.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Users should use their own good judgment when using school technologies.

Limitation of Liability

The dHL will not be responsible for damage or harm to persons, files, data, or hardware.

While the dHL employs filtering and other safety and security mechanisms, and attempts to ensure their proper function, it makes no guarantees as to their effectiveness.

The dHL will not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for unauthorized transactions conducted over the school network.

Violations of this Acceptable Use Policy

Violations of this policy may have disciplinary repercussions, including:

- Suspension of network, technology, or computer privileges in extreme cases
- Legal action and/or prosecution

Responsible Use Guidelines

The Digital Human Library encourages teachers, students, staff, and other school community members to use social networking/media (Skype, Twitter, Facebook, etc.) as a way to connect with others, share educational resources, create and curate educational content, and enhance the

classroom experience. While social networking is fun and valuable, there are some risks you should keep in mind when using these tools. In the social media world, the lines are blurred between what is public or private, personal or professional.

We've created these social networking/media guidelines for you to follow when representing the school in the virtual world.

Use good judgment

We expect you to use good judgment in all situations.

You must know and follow the school's Code of Conduct and Privacy Policy. Regardless of your privacy settings, assume that all of the information you have shared on your social network is public information.

Be respectful

Always treat others in a respectful, positive and considerate manner.

Be responsible and ethical

Even though you are approved to represent the school, unless you are specifically authorized to speak on behalf of the school as a spokesperson, you should state that the views expressed in your online dialogue are your own. Stick with discussing school-related matters that are within your area of responsibility.

Be open about your affiliation with the school and the role/position you hold.

Be a good listener

Keep in mind that one of the biggest benefits of social media is that it gives others another way to talk to you, ask questions directly and to share feedback.

Be responsive others when conversing online. Provide answers, thank people for their comments, and ask for further feedback, etc.

Always be doing at least as much listening and responding as you do "talking."

Don't share the following:

Confidential information

- Do not publish, post or release information that is considered confidential or not public. If it seems confidential, it probably is. Online "conversations" are never private. Do not use your birth date, address, and cell phone number on any public website. Private and personal information
- To ensure your safety, be careful about the type and amount of personal information you provide. Avoid talking about personal schedules or situations.
- NEVER give out or transmit personal information of students, parents, or co-workers
- Don't take information you may receive through social networking (such as email addresses, customer names or telephone numbers) and assume it's the most up-to-date or correct.

- Always respect the privacy of the school community members.

Please be cautious with respect to:

Images

- Respect brand, trademark, copyright information and/or images of the school
- You may use photos and video, (products, etc.), that are available on the school's website.
- It is not acceptable to post pictures of students without the expressed written consent of their parents.
- Do not post pictures of others (co-workers, etc.) without their permission.

Other sites

- A significant part of the interaction on Skype, blogs, Twitter, Facebook and other social networks involves passing on interesting content or linking to helpful resources. However, the school is ultimately responsible for any content that is shared. Don't blindly repost a link without looking at the content first.
- Pay attention to the security warnings that pop up on your computer before clicking on unfamiliar links. They actually serve a purpose and protect you and the school.
- When using Skype, Twitter, Facebook and other tools, be sure to follow their printed terms and conditions.

And if you don't get it right...

- Be sure to correct any mistake you make immediately, and make it clear what you've done to fix it.
- Apologize for the mistake if the situation warrants it.
- If it's a MAJOR mistake (e.g., exposing private information or reporting confidential information), please let someone know immediately so the school can take the proper steps to help minimize the impact it may have.