Forrest M. Bird Charter School

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS **1405**

School Board Use of Email, Social Media, and School-Provided Electronic Devices

Use of email by Members of the Board will conform to the same standards of judgment, propriety, and ethics as other forms of School Board-related communication. Board Members will comply with the following guidelines when using email in the conduct of Board responsibilities:

1. The Board will not use email, communications via social media, or other electronic communications as a substitute for deliberations or voting at Board meetings or for other communications or business properly confined to Board meetings.

2. Board Members will be aware that email and email attachments received or prepared for use in Board business or containing information relating to Board business, regardless of whether sent or received on a school-owned computer or personally-owned computer, may be regarded as public records, which may be inspected by any person upon request, unless otherwise made confidential by law. Additionally, if a Board Member is utilizing a school-owned technology device for personal purposes, such communications may also be subject to production in a public records request.

3. Board Members will note that individual postings made to social media sites should be considered carefully in light of how they would reflect on the poster, the Board of Directors, and the Charter School. Opinions expressed by staff on a social networking website have the potential to be disseminated far beyond the speaker's desire or intention and could undermine the public perception of fitness of the individual to serve students' interests. Individual Board member postings are an act of the individual and are not an act of the Board.

4. Board members will comply with the same standards as school employees with regard to confidential information and security measures taken when sending it electronically.

5. Board members shall refrain from downloading or using the TikTok app or visiting the TikTok website on any School-provided device or while connected to the School's network. If TikTok has already been downloaded onto a device issued to a Board member by the School, the Board member shall delete the app or seek School assistance in deleting it.

Board Directors shall not use School-provided email or social media for personal purposes.

Any use of a School-provided electronic device by a Board director must be:

1. In support of education and/or research, and in furtherance of the School's stated educational goals; or

2. For a legitimate school business purpose.

Definitions

"Deliberation" is defined as the receipt or exchange of information or opinion relating to a decision, but shall not include informal or impromptu discussions of a general nature which do not specifically relate to a matter then pending before the public agency for decision.

Cross Reference:	5325	Employee Use of Social Media Sites, Including Personal Sites
	5330	Employee Email and Online Services Usage
Legal References:	IC § 74-101, *et seq*.	Idaho Public Records Act
	IC § 18-6726	TikTok Use by State Employees on a State-Issued Device Prohibited
	IC § 74-202	Open Meetings Law - Open Public Meetings – Definitions
	Idaho Executive Order 2022-06	
	Cowles Pub. Co. v. Kootenai County Bd., 159 P.3d 896 (Idaho, 2007)	

Policy History:
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