

NORTH HAVEN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

SOCIAL MEDIA TIPS FOR MEMBERS

Keep It Positive: It can be tempting to use social media to complain and vent, don't. Comments about colleagues, community members, classroom changes, school events, parents or students that may be negative in tone can be misconstrued or taken out of context. Anything that can be viewed as disparaging the district is a policy violation.

Use Humor Carefully: People handle stress differently. Humor can be a way to relieve stress, but it can also come off as insensitive or offensive. Humor, like many things, is subjective and can be easily misinterpreted shedding a negative light on you as a district representative.

Fact Check: Misinformation is everywhere. Take extra precautions when posting and sharing, especially on education and town related issues.

Be Wary of Trends: Social media trends can be fun to watch but filming with students or on school property and or taking pictures of students to post on social media without prior permission violates district policy. Our students (and parents) are always watching and those silly trends might seem light hearted to some but offensive or setting a bad example to others.

Be a Good Digital Citizen: Be respectful. Protect your privacy and the privacy of your students and colleagues. Consider perspective when posting. If you are unsure if you should post it, it's quite possible you shouldn't. Posts that reflect poorly on you, reflect poorly on the district and violate district policy.

Be Mindful of Use: Posting during contractual work hours can be viewed as a policy violation, be mindful of the time in which you are using social media. Taking images of identifiable school areas or signs can create security risks and violate district policy.

Students and Parents are Not "Friends": Everyone is expected to maintain professional boundaries with students and parents. Unless the relationship was established in previous years - you should not accept or send social media friend requests or follows from students or parents.

Please be sure to read through the full district policy regarding Social Media and Technology Use. The above should serve as a reference set of guidelines and may not include all aspects of the district's policies. Policies can be found on the district [website](#) and in your employee handbook located on ADP.

EXAMPLES OF SOCIAL MEDIA IMAGES POSTED TO PERSONAL PAGES

OKAY TO POST



THINK TWICE ABOUT POSTING



Have all students signed image waivers?





Is this a good example to set for little kiddos as "ok" to drink from?



Was district approval obtained?

