

Special Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 28, 2024 6:30 PM
East Butler School
212 South Madison Street
Brainard, NE 68626-0036

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Flag Salute/Open Meetings Act Statement
4. Patron's Comments
5. Discussion/Informational Items
 - 5.1. 2024-2025 Budget Discussion
6. Regular Agenda
 - 6.1. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to approve the Resolution to increase the district's base growth percentage by up to an additional seven percent or other maximum amount as permitted by law.
 - 6.2. Discuss, consider, and take all necessary action to revise board policy 4051.
7. Adjournment

RESOLUTION 243

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Legislature enacted several measures this past legislative session, including LB 243, to adjust public school district revenue and finances and,

WHEREAS, LB 243 generally limits a public school district's property tax request authority, subject to limited exceptions; and

WHEREAS, LB 243 includes an exception to generally allow a school district to otherwise exceed the default property tax request authority if at least seventy percent of the Board of Education votes in favor of the increased request and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education of a school district with an average daily membership of more than zero students but no more than four hundred seventy-one students may increase its tax request by an additional seven percent above the base growth percentage; and

WHEREAS, the average daily membership of Butler County School District Number 12-0502, a/k/a East Butler Public Schools (the "School District") is more than zero students but no more than four hundred seventy-one students, and

WHEREAS, due to rising enrollment, student and staffing needs, and the need to maintain its budgetary obligations, the Board of Education of the School District hereby desires to increase its base growth percentage by an additional seven percent or other maximum amounts as permitted by law; and;

WHEREAS, public notice of this possible increase was published in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the School District at least one week prior to this Board meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 5 of 2023 Neb. Laws 243, at least seventy percent of the Board of Education of this School District affirmatively votes to increase the School District's overall property tax request authority by an additional seven percent above the base growth percentage or other maximum amount as permitted by law. The Superintendent or designee is hereby authorized and directed to take any action consistent with this Resolution to ensure that the School District's overall property tax request complies with this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution, having been read in its entirety, Member _____ moved for their passage and adoption. Member _____ seconded same. After discussion and on roll call vote, the following members voted in favor of the passage and adoption of the above Resolution:

The following members voted against the same:

The following members were absent or not voting:

The above Resolution, having been consented to by at least seventy percent of the Board of Education members, was declared as passed and adopted by the President at a duly held and lawfully convened meeting in full compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings law.

DATED this 28th day of August 2024.

EAST BUTLER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BY:

ATTEST:

President

Secretary

4051
Staff and District Social Media Use

Social media is an important tool for communicating, keeping up-to-date with current developments in education, and for conducting research to enhance management, teaching, and learning skills. The district also uses social media accounts to provide information to district stakeholders. This policy is intended to ensure (1) appropriate use of social media by staff and (2) appropriate control of social media accounts belonging to or affiliated with the district. Staff should also refer to the district's policy on Staff Computer and Internet Usage.

I. Personal Versus School-Affiliated Social Media Use

A. Personal Social Media Use

1. The school district will not require staff members or applicants for employment to provide the district with their username and password to personal social media accounts.
2. The district will not require staff to add anyone to the list of contacts associated with the staff member's personal social media accounts or require a staff member to change the settings on his or her personal social media accounts so that others can or cannot view their accounts.
3. Staff members whose personal social media use interferes with the orderly operation of the school or who use social media in ways that are not protected by the First Amendment may be subject to discipline by the district.
4. Staff members who wish to begin using or to continue using the school district name, programs, mascot, image or likeness as part of any social media profile must notify their supervising administrator of the use, and must secure the administrator's permission to do so.

B. School-Affiliated Social Media Use

1. Any social media account which purports to be “the official” account of the school district (e.g., “Bulldog Wrestling”), or any of its programs, classes or entities will be considered to be an account that is used exclusively for the school district’s business purpose. Staff members may not use “official” accounts for personal use.
2. Staff may be required to provide their supervising administrator with the username and password to school-affiliated social media accounts.
3. Staff may be required to interact with specified individuals on school-affiliated social media accounts.
4. When staff use school-affiliated social media accounts to comment on school-related matters, they do not do so as private citizens and are therefore not entitled to First Amendment protections.

II. Staff Expectations in Use of Social Media – Applicable to Both Personal and School-Affiliated Use

A. General Use and Conditions

Staff must comply with all board policies, contract provisions, and applicable rules of professional conduct in their social media usage. They must comply with the board’s policy on professional boundaries between staff and students at all times and in both physical and digital environments.

Staff must obtain the consent of their building principal or the superintendent prior to posting any student-related information in order to make sure that the publication does not violate the Federal Education Records Privacy Act or any other laws. Staff must also comply with all applicable state and federal record retention requirements, even with regard to personal social media usage.

Staff must comply with all applicable laws prohibiting the use or disclosure of impermissible content, such as copyright laws, accountability and disclosure laws, and any other law governing the use of resources of a political subdivision. Questions about

appropriate content should be referred to the staff member's supervising administrator.

B. Acceptable Use

1. Staff may use social media for instructional purposes.
2. Staff may use social media for school-related communication with fellow educators, students, parents, and patrons.
3. Teachers should integrate the use of electronic resources, which may include social media, into the classroom. As the quality and integrity of content on social media is not guaranteed, teachers must examine the source of the information and provide guidance to students on evaluating the quality of information they may encounter.

C. Unacceptable Use

1. Staff shall not access obscene or pornographic material while at school, on school-owned device or on school-affiliated social media accounts.
2. Staff shall not engage in any illegal activities, including the downloading and reproduction of copyrighted materials.
3. Staff shall not access social media networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram on school-owned devices or during school time unless such access is for an educational activity which has been preapproved by the staff member's immediate supervisor. This prohibition extends to using chat rooms, message boards, or instant messaging in social media applications and includes posting on social networking sites using personal electronic devices.

III. School-Affiliated Digital Content

A. General Use and Conditions for School-Affiliated Accounts

Staff must obtain the permission of their supervising administration prior to creating, publishing, or using any school-affiliated web pages, microblogs, social media pages or handles, or any other digital content which represents itself to be school-related, or which could be reasonably understood to be school-related. This includes any content which identifies the school district by name in the account name or which uses the school's mascot name or image.

Staff must provide administrators with the username and password for all school-affiliated accounts and must only publish content appropriate for the school setting. Staff may not provide the username and password to school-affiliated accounts to any unauthorized individual, including students and volunteers.

B. Moderation of Third Party Content

The purpose of school-related social media accounts is to disseminate information. No school-related or school-affiliated social media account covered by this policy shall permit comments by the public unless otherwise approved by the superintendent. All comment functions for applications such as Facebook and Instagram must be turned to "off" without this approval.

In the event the superintendent permits content created by anyone other than the administrator of the account to appear on the account's pages, such as comments made by students, parents, and patrons, the account administrator must monitor the content to ensure it complies with this policy. Posts, comments, or any other content made or displayed on the account's pages may be removed when the content meets any of the following conditions:

1. Is obscene, lewd, lascivious or appeals to prurient interests;
2. Contains information relating to a student matter or personnel matter which is protected under or prohibited by state or federal law;
3. Contains fighting words or content that is threatening, harassing, or discriminatory ~~words or phrases~~;

- 3.4. Advocates, promotes, or encourages the use of drugs, alcohol, or other prohibited substances;
- 4.5. Incites or is reasonably anticipated to incite violence, illegal activity, or a material and substantial disruption to school operations or activities; or
- 5.6. Contains any other threat to the safety of students and staff.

Any individual, account, or follower of any official school account may be banned, blocked, and/or removed from access to the official accounts of the school for a repeated violation of these rules.

Official school accounts and school-affiliated accounts exist to serve the school, its activities, and students. Therefore, "tagging," "mentioning," or otherwise connecting outside content to school accounts is not permitted. For purposes of this policy, that will be called a "tag" or "tagging." Often, businesses and individuals tag school accounts to promote and/or extend the reach of their own content rather than interacting with school account postings consistent with the rules above. Any outside business or individual account that "tags" or "mentions" a school account will first be informed that tagging a school account is prohibited and asked to remove the tag. A second or subsequent tag of a school account may lead to that outside business or individual account being blocked or in some other way having their access removed. This policy will be applied regardless of the viewpoint or content shared by the account holder.

Every school account administrator must keep a copy of any removed content or banned/blocked account and must provide a copy to the superintendent along with written notification for the reason the ~~post has been removed~~ account administrator took action. All questions about the appropriateness of removal or banning/blocking must be directed to the superintendent. The length of any ban/block of an outside account will be at the discretion of the superintendent.

Adopted on: _____
Revised on: _____
Reviewed on: _____