

Point Pleasant Borough Blogging User Agreement for Staff

In conjunction with Policy 2361 -- Acceptable Use of Computer Network/Computers and Resources, the Point Pleasant Board of Education reserves the right to permit teaching staff members to generate classroom-specific websites referred to as “blogs” for purposes of providing students with the ability to electronically exchange commentary and/or information related to a particular classroom topic. Such blogs shall be generated and monitored by the respective teaching staff member in strict accordance with rules and regulations established by the Board. Any blog so established is considered a virtual extension of the classroom, and therefore all Point Pleasant Public Schools and New Jersey Department of Education rules and regulations shall apply. Additionally, any teacher generating a blog site for class use shall be subject to the following:

1. Teachers may only generate blog sites that are approved in writing by the Superintendent of Schools or his designee. Teachers using or generating classroom-related blog sites not approved by the Superintendent of School shall be subject to discipline.
2. Teachers who generate blog sites for instructional purposes shall be responsible for being the moderator of each site, managing the discussion threads in each blog site, and ensuring that all discussions are related to current classroom content or topics.
3. Any blog site generated by teachers for instructional purposes must permit the teacher to approve all student entries before they are posted on the blog.
4. All blog sites must be private and not viewable to the general public. Such sites must require membership to the blogging group in order to post or read entries.
5. Teachers who generate a blog site must proofread all student entries prior to their posting it on the blog site. Teachers must exclude from posting all entries containing the following:
 - a. Curse words, profanity and/or other inappropriate language
 - b. Plagiarism
 - c. Personally identifiable information about students, faculty or any other individual (including, but not limited to, last names, pictures, addresses, email addresses, phone numbers, and/or school information, including the locations and times of class trips)
 - d. Information unrelated to current classroom discussions
 - e. Threats and/or harassing, rude, disrespectful and/or discriminatory comments
 - f. Any other information deemed inappropriate and/or unacceptable by the teacher
 - g. Copyrighted information
 - h. Solicitations and/or advertisements of any kind

- 6. Student participation in the blog site is a privilege, not a right. Participation in or access to the blog site shall not be considered a substitute for classroom participation. Teachers shall ensure that students remain responsible for all assignments, course content, exam preparation included within the class curriculum without reliance on the blog site.
- 7. Teachers will be responsible for reporting any student or staff misuse of blog sites. Such students shall be subject to discipline as deemed appropriate by the teacher, the administration and/or the Board of Education. Staff members may be subject to discipline and/or penalties in accordance with applicable Board policy, collective negotiations agreements, individual employment contracts and/or State law.
- 8. Teachers will abide by all provisions of the Board Policy regarding Technology/Communications.
- 9. The Board and/or the administration reserve the right to prohibit and/or eliminate any or all blog sites generated by teachers at any time. The Board and/or the administration may also modify and/or supplement any or all rules relating to the creation or use of blog sites at any time.

Name of site: _____

Site URL: _____

Class(es) that will be utilizing this site: _____

Instructional purpose or goal for utilizing this site: _____

Administrator Name

Staff Member Name

Administrator Signature

Staff Member Signature

Date: _____