



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS AND STUDENTS REGARDING THE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE (e.g. Facebook) AND CELL PHONES

Each year, all students and parents/guardians sign an **Acceptable Use Agreement** regarding computer use that is used throughout the District School Board of Niagara. While all aspects of this document are important, we would like to draw your attention to one portion of that agreement.

Non-academic use of DSBN computers, (e.g. instant messaging, social networking, playing online games), except where directed by a teacher, will not be tolerated.

The student Code of Conduct included in your Student Agenda, states the following:

Cell phones may be brought to school; however cell phones are not to be on or used during class time.

Despite signed agreements and printed expectations, some students do not respect these restrictions. Teachers too frequently have to remind students to exit social networking sites, like Facebook, when students are supposed to be attending to instruction and doing their assigned work. The use of cell phones, especially text messaging, is another frequent intrusion of instructional time. **If you need to contact your son or daughter, please refrain from texting during class time.**

Dealing with these issues daily is consuming an extraordinary amount of time and is impacting on the learning environment in a significant manner. Continued use of cell phones and social networking sites will result in immediate consequences.

These consequences may include any of:

- * The restriction or suspension of a student's access to the DSBN computer system (in some instances, this may endanger a student's ability to complete course requirements.)
- * Confiscation of electronic equipment (cell phones, handheld gaming devices, etc.). This may be a short-term confiscation (end of day), or, in instances of repeated infractions, the equipment may be required to be retrieved from the school by a parent/guardian.
- * Suspension of the student from the school.
- * Other consequences as deemed suitable.

We appreciate your support as we endeavour to provide the best possible learning environment for all of our students.

Parent/Student Declaration

(Please sign and return completed form.)

Your signature below indicates that you understand that students who do not co-operate in respecting the expectations regarding the use of Social Networking Sites and Cell Phones will be consequence accordingly.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____