

Parent/Student Social Media Contract

Social Media, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, personal texting, and blogging are powerful tools of communication. Online activity such as searching, shopping, gaming, commenting, and creating or uploading posts, videos, and photos all create a student's digital footprint. A digital footprint can be searched, shared, and seen by a large audience. We want our students to take control over their digital footprint so that it is a positive trail. Whether Seward High School had moved towards a 1:1 initiative or not, many students already had the ability to exercise the ability to be connected 24/7. Therefore, we hope this contract helps to facilitate a productive conversation at home regarding appropriate use.

I understand that:

- _____ While in high school, I am growing and learning important organizational, time management, and social skills, and that my parents or guardians have the right to set limits on my online behaviors and activities.
- _____ While I am personally responsible for the care, maintenance and use of my mobile device, my parents or guardians are financially responsible for me and have the right to protect their liability in school-issued equipment.
- _____ While I may make personal use of my school-issued mobile device, my school and parents/guardians have provided it for the primary purpose of enhancing my education and opportunities that education will provide.
- _____ My online activities are a reflection of not only myself, but of my family, my school, and my community.

I will protect my online reputation and privacy:

- _____ I will create and check my privacy setting on my social networking sites.
- _____ I will keep my passwords private and not share with my friends.
- _____ I will not give out my personal information (like personal address and cell phone number, etc.) to someone I don't know.
- _____ I will not post or send inappropriate pictures of myself or my friends.
- _____ I will always be honest about my identity; I will not pretend to be someone else.
- _____ I will always think twice before posting.
- _____ I will be respectful and thoughtful of myself and others.
- _____ I will follow the rules of the site, terms and conditions, and my parents rules.

I will demonstrate my maturity:

- _____ I agree to use my mobile devices and internet connectivity responsibly and not be hurtful to anyone.
- _____ I agree not to use technology to cheat.
- _____ I will be mindful of the time I spend consuming media and will balance it with other activities in my life.
- _____ I will confide in an adult if anything potentially dangerous happens online.

I will think first:

- _____ I know that not everything I read or see is true, and I will think about whether a source or person is credible.
- _____ I agree to think about and understand anything I download.
- _____ I will earn my independence and my parents trust.
- _____ I will help my parents understand why media is so important to me.
- _____ I will show them how to use the tools I like.
- _____ I will share my posts, comments, etc. on social media with my parents if they ask me to.

In exchange, my parents agree to:

- _____ Be open-minded about the media that I love and recognize its importance in my life.
- _____ Let me make some simple mistakes and help me learn from my mistakes.
- _____ Before saying “No”, talk with me about their worries.
- _____ Respect my privacy and talk to me if they have concerns.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date