

ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Policy Statement

The Eastern School Board believes that the use of technology in schools shall be based on a philosophy of education which respects the uniqueness of each student in a safe and caring learning environment, and shall be conducted according to the *Acceptable Use of Information and Communications Technology Policy (Code: EHAA)*, as well as current modern educational theory and practice that is consistent with provincially prescribed curriculum.

Rationale

The Eastern School Board recognizes that the personal and functional use of technology has become widespread and common place in society and in our schools. The Board acknowledges the need to enable teachers and students to be comfortable with and proficient in accessing, manipulating, and communicating through diverse technology formats. In this way, students will graduate with the lifelong learning skills necessary in an information-driven society. The use of technology in the classroom must be a natural and complementary element to sound instructional practices focused on curriculum outcomes and sensitive to instructional time.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

PDA is defined as a handheld personal digital assistant.

Technology is defined as any device or application encompassing: radio, television, video/audio recorders, video/audio players, cameras, calculators, electronic responding units, cellular phones, projection units, PDA, interactive whiteboards, computer hardware and software, as well as the various services and applications associated with them, such as videoconferencing and distance learning.

Scope

This policy is applicable to all administrators, teachers, student assistants, support staff, and students under the jurisdiction of the Eastern School Board.

Authority: Eastern School Board

Date Approved by the Board: October 21, 2009

Legal Reference:

Date of Amendments:

Cross Reference: The Schools Act, 1997

Procedures

1. The Eastern School District will establish Administrative Regulations that govern the application of this policy.
2. The Administrative Regulations will be reviewed by the CEO/Director of Education in collaboration with the District Administrative Staff.
3. The use of technology in the classroom must be in keeping with provincial and federal regulations and legislation.
4. Technology cannot be disruptive to the teaching and learning environment.
5. Schools shall establish regulations for the authorized use of PDA's.
6. Technology can only be used during class time if its use is planned, supervised and supports the achievement of provincial curriculum outcomes.
7. Web-based communication between teachers and students must be password protected and administered by a teacher.