



Lincoln County School District Social Media Guidelines and Activity Expectations School Year 2018-2019

Social Media Guidelines

Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, and other social media sites have increased in global popularity and many students in the Lincoln County School District use it in one form or another.

Students and parents should be aware that third parties – including media, faculty and future employers – could easily access profiles and view your personal information including pictures, videos, comments and posts. Inappropriate material found by third parties affects the perception of the student, your coach/advisor, your school and the District. This can also be detrimental to a student's future employment options.

Examples of inappropriate and offensive behaviors concerning participation in online communities may include depictions or presentation of the following:

- Photos, videos, comments or posts showing the personal use of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco. For example: holding keg cups, beer cans, shot glasses, cigarettes....*Don't do it!*
- Photos, videos and comments of a sexual nature. This includes links to websites of a pornographic nature and other inappropriate material.
- Pictures, videos, comments or posts that condone drug-related activity. This includes but is not limited to images that portray the personal use of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.
- Content online that is unsportsmanlike, derogatory, demeaning or threatening toward any other individual or entity (Examples: derogatory comments regarding another institution, taunting comments aimed at a student-athlete, coach or team at another institution and derogatory comments against race and/or gender.) No posts should depict or encourage unacceptable, violent or illegal activities such as hazing, sexual harassment/assault, gambling, discrimination, fighting, vandalism, academic dishonesty, underage drinking and illegal drug use.

The following guidelines outline the expectation of every student in regards to social media:

- ✓ Understand and follow the rules of each particular social media site.
- ✓ Do not post information, photos or other representations of sexual content or harassing language.
- ✓ The social media policy set by Lincoln County School District works in conjunction with the policies described in the Student Handbook and Lincoln County School District Policy.

In an effort to guide social media practices, LCSD suggests the following:

- Understand that freedom of speech is limited. Social media websites are not a place where you can say and do whatever you want without repercussions.
- Think twice before posting. If you would not want your parents, grandparents, family, coaches or boss to see your post – then DO NOT post it!
- Remember the internet is permanent. Even if you delete something on the internet, it still exists out there somewhere.
- Remember many different audiences will see your posts, including fans, alumni, children, other students, parents, staff, faculty, etc.

- Be honest, respectful and positive.
- Be professional and polite.
- Be accurate. If you make a mistake, own up to it and correct it quickly.
- Avoid topics that may be considered objectionable or inflammatory.
- Do not post anything you would not speak about openly in a work place or public, such as comments on drug use, sexual humor, and skin color or ethnic slurs.
- Do not post when your judgment is impaired in any way.
- Remember coaches/advisors and administrators monitor social media websites.
- Remember potential employers use social media websites to screen candidates. Your career path can be directly impacted by your actions on social media websites.
- Protect yourself by maintaining a self-image that you can be proud of years from now.
- Use the privacy/security settings made available on social media sites.

For your own safety, please keep the following recommendations in mind as you participate in social media websites:

- Set your security settings so that only your friends can view your profile.
- You should not post your email, home address, local address, telephone number(s), or other personal information as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, identity theft, etc.
- Be aware of who you add as a friend to your site. Many people are looking to take advantage of students and student-athletes or to seek connection with them.
- Consider how the above behaviors can be reflected to all media applications.

If you are ever in doubt about the appropriateness of your online public material, consider whether it upholds and positively reflects your own values and ethics, as well as those of your high school. Remember, always present a positive image and don't do anything to embarrass yourself, your team, your family or your school.

Understanding and Agreements – School Pride and Sportsmanship

Students not only represent the school and themselves, but they are also citizens of Lincoln County and a representative of their community. Students should conduct themselves in a manner that will reflect well on their community and the activity programs of the Lincoln County School District. If a student's behavior reflects poorly on the activity group, school district, or community at large (e.g. law infraction, vandalism, frequent referrals, alcohol, tobacco, nicotine and other drug violations, poor sportsmanship, violations of the LCSD Social Media Guidelines and Expectations , etc.) they are subject to consequences including suspension from the activity for a defined period of time, or removal from the activity.

If a student is suspended from school for any reason, they will be ineligible to participate in any school activity for the duration of the suspension. If a student is current an activity participant, they will be unable to participate in the next scheduled activity/competition after suspension is concluded, this includes riding on the bus to the event, sitting with the team at the event or dressing down for the event. However, students will be allowed to participate during practice, per team rules. Alcohol, tobacco, nicotine and other drug violations will be enforced as per Section I (1&2) of the code. Athletes must complete the season in good standing in order to qualify for an activity award (i.e. letter or certificate).

Students must follow the individual rules of any activities they participate in, as identified, in writing by the coach/advisor. Student participants and athletes must abide by the code established by the coach to earn a varsity letter award during the season.

Students must comply with LCSD Weapons Code JFCJ. If it is determined a rule has been violated, disciplinary actions required by LCSD Policy IGD-AR may not be waived.

Chemical Health Violations (Including but not limited to alcohol, tobacco, nicotine and other drugs.)

Alcohol/Drugs

If a student receives a Minor in Possession (MIP), violate LCSD Code: JFCH/JFCI Alcohol and Other Drug Use and Code: JFC-AR Student Code of Conduct, or is in attendance where there is the illegal use of alcohol or other drugs, the athlete/ASB/ will be subject to the following:

Student Athletes/Student Council/ASB/Elected Officers/Elected and Selected Positions:

First Offense:

Suspension from participation in the next competition for which they would have been eligible for thirty three and one third percent (1/3) of the number of the scheduled regular season contests (with the remaining balance to carry over into post season or subsequent seasons) and/or 21 calendar day suspension from office;

Completion of a Drug and Alcohol Assessment at their own expense and follow all recommendations of the assessment to remain eligible. Reconcile with peers as determined in collaboration with coach/advisor.

All Future Offenses:

ASB Members: Loss of ASB title. May remain in Leadership classes per Administrative decision.

Athletics and other Activities: Suspension from participation for one Calendar year OR agree to an Athletic Expulsion Hearing by an LCSD designee and agree to their recommendations. Possible terms of Athletic Expulsion Hearing to include all or combination of:

- Probation for one calendar year.
- Suspension from participation equal to 33% (See First Offense)
- Attendance in school at or above 90%.
- Must maintain academic eligibility and stay on track towards graduation.
- Submit to UA's as determined by Hearings Officer.
- Submit to Drug/Alcohol Counseling as determined by Hearings Officer.
- Community Service as determined by Hearings Officer.
- Other TBD

Failure to comply with any aspect of the agreed upon Athletic Expulsion Hearing recommendations could lead to revocation of said agreement. A new Athletic Expulsion Hearing will be required for the LCSD designee to determine appropriate course of action including possible Athletic participation suspension for one calendar year from the new infraction date.

NOTE: Participants who voluntarily turn themselves in for drug or alcohol counseling or treatment prior to an incident which violates the Activities Code will not be suspended. They will, however, be required to attend not less than ten hours of counseling. Any violation of the Activities Code during the counseling period would be dealt with according to the first offense of the Activities Code pertaining to drug and alcohol violations. This does not mean that if a student turns him/herself in after getting caught in violation of the Code that he/she would not be suspended. This only covers students who seek counseling because they realize they have a problem.

Participants in any co-curricular activities will be subject to the same consequences as student athletes or student council. Suspension from office includes suspension from all school sponsored extracurricular activities (i.e. sporting events, dances, and club activities).

Tobacco and Nicotine

Possession or use tobacco/nicotine in any form and/or violate LCSD Policy GBK/JFCG/KCG: Tobacco Free Environment.

First offense: (No prior tobacco/nicotine or chemical health violations)

Suspension for ten percent of the number of the scheduled regular season contests (with the remaining

balance to carry over into post season or subsequent season) and/or 10 calendar day suspension from office. Any suspension shall begin with the next activity/competition for which the student is scheduled to participate. Additional consequences outlined in the rules and regulations of LCSD Policy: GBK/JFCG/KGC may also apply.

Additional Offenses:

Additional offenses will follow the steps outlined in Section I, Consequences for Chemical Health Violations.

Example: Students with one prior tobacco/nicotine violation and no prior chemical health violations will be subject to the consequences outlined in Section I - A: Consequences for Chemical Health Violations, First Offense.

Additional consequences outlined in the rules and regulations of LCSD Policy: GBK/JFCG/KGC may also apply.

Tobacco/Nicotine Violations for Students with Prior Chemical Health Violations:

Students with previous Chemical Health Violations are not eligible for Tobacco/Nicotine consequences. They will be subject to the next consequence outlined in Section I: Consequences for Chemical Health Violations, as per their standing.

If a student wishes to run for student body office but has had one tobacco/nicotine violation in the past twelve (12) months, prior to elections then the student is required to perform 10 hours of community service to be determined by the building administration. If the student has had more than one tobacco/nicotine violation in the past twelve (12) months, then the student is ineligible to run for office.

If a student is in a position of leadership and violate the district tobacco/nicotine policy then the student will be required to perform 10 hours of community service to be determined by the building administration. A second violation within the term of office will result in my removal from office.

Keep this document as a reference and reminder. The signature page you received with this document will be retained on file at your school.

Lincoln County School District
Social Media Guidelines & Activity Expectations
School Year 2018-19

Violation of the social media policy and other guidelines may result in disciplinary action as described in Lincoln County School District Policies JFC/JFC-AR (Student Code of Conduct) and JFCEB/JFCEB-AR (Personal Electronic Devices and Social Media).



By signing below you affirm that you understand the LCSD Social Media Guidelines & Activity Expectations and the requirements that you must adhere to as a LCSD student.

You also understand that failure to adhere to this policy and guidelines may result in consequences that include suspension from your athletic team or activity, and possible additional penalties.

Student Name: _____ **Parent Name:** _____

Student Signature _____ **Parent Signature** _____

Date: _____

Date: _____