

# POLICY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

**Related Entries:** GAOO, GAOO-RA, JCCA, JCCA-RA, JCC, JCC-RAA

**Responsible Office:** OFFICE OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE, DIVISION OF HUMAN RESOURCES, OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

### STUDENT USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

#### A. PURPOSE

To provide students of Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) with guidelines for appropriate student conduct when using social media.

#### B. ISSUE

AACPS recognizes social media as a viable tool to advance communications for students in the educational process. Safe, supportive, effective learning environments depend on students demonstrating respect for themselves and others and using social media in a manner that will not detract from the learning process.

#### C. POSITION

1. The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) recognizes that social media can serve as a viable tool to enhance education, communication, and learning.
2. AACPS prohibits communications by students over social media that create a hostile educational environment or substantially interferes with a student's educational benefits, opportunities, performance, or with a student's physical or psychological well-being and is threatening or seriously intimidating; and occurs on school property, at a school activity or event, whether on or off school grounds, or on a school bus; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a school.
3. AACPS prohibits communications between students and staff through social media except in cases where the communications are approved, monitored, and regulated by AACPS administration and parents/guardians written authorization (see Regulation GAOO-RA – Employee Use of Social Media.)
4. Students are expected to at all times abide by Board policy and regulation, the AACPS *Student Code of Conduct*, and all local, State, and federal laws in their use of social media.

#### D. IMPLEMENTATION

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy.

*Policy History:* Adopted on 05/03/17

*Note Previous Policy History:* Adopted on 04/18/13