

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND MEDIA LITERACY

Students use technology to play, learn, and communicate while at home and at school. It is important that students learn to use technology responsibly and effectively. The Bainbridge Island School District is dedicated to promoting and instilling principles of digital citizenship and media literacy in each of its students. The district is committed to educating every student to use technology to augment their learning experiences; to analyze, evaluate and reflect upon digital information; and enhance skills of expression. As the district's educators guide exploration of digital resources, they will encourage students to be critical and creative thinkers. Students, in turn, are expected to actively collaborate and engage with others as responsible digital citizens.

Digital Citizenship

Digital citizens recognize and value the rights, responsibilities and opportunities of living, learning and working in an interconnected digital world, and they engage in safe, legal and ethical behaviors. Digital citizens cultivate and manage their digital identity and reputation and are aware of the permanence of their actions in the digital world. They advocate for themselves and others in their behavior, actions, and choices.

Digital citizenship can also be defined as the norms of appropriate, responsible technology use, and it can be broken down into eight strategic areas: etiquette, communication, literacy, commerce, law, access, security, and rights and responsibilities.

Media Literacy

Media literacy is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create and act using a variety of forms of communication. Media literacy includes the ability to understand how and why media messages and images are constructed and for what purposes they are used. Media literate citizens examine how individuals interpret messages differently based on their skills, beliefs, backgrounds and experiences. They also consider how values and points of view are included or excluded in media pieces.

Policies and Practices

The district acknowledges the need for digital and online policies that are dynamic and responsive to diverse community standards and student learning outcomes. Annually, the district will review its policies and procedures on electronic resources, Internet safety, digital citizenship, and media literacy.

Communications and Engagement

The district acknowledges that parents and community stakeholders are partners in developing students as digital citizens and life-long learners. The district encourages parents' active engagement in the process of educating students to become media-literate digital citizens.

Cross References: 4217 – Effective Communication
 5281 - Disciplinary Action and Discharge

4400 - Election Activities
4040 - Public Access to District Records
3241 - Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective
Action
3231 - Student Records
3207 - Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
2025 - Copyright Compliance
2020 - Course Design, Selection and Adoption of Instructional
Materials

Legal References:

RCW 28A.650.010 Definitions
RCW 28A.650.045 Digital citizenship, internet safety, and
media literacy

Management Resources:

2017 – December Policy
Issue