

### Social Media Guidelines and Permission to Publish Form

To help students develop their reading and writing skills as well as cultivate our understanding of different people and cultures, our students are participating in using a variety of online social media applications. Such technologies as blogs, wikis, podcasts, media sharing, and other forms of online communities may be a part of classroom assignments. When students are able to safely share their ideas with an audience broader than just our classroom, often they can discover their voice and become even more motivated to learn, communicate and share their ideas effectively with others.

Negative stories about ways young people use the Internet and social media websites are often prominent. One of the reasons we are participating in some collaborative social media projects this year is to help our students learn through experiences and discover ways to safely use the Internet to share information and collaborate. Cherokee County School District has set some specific guidelines to assist in the proper incorporation of social media in the classroom.

A variety of social media tools will be used to allow students to share their work and ideas with others. The particular tools chosen for classroom use are based on availability, safety and privacy concerns, and recommendations from the Cherokee County Board of Education Technology Office.

The following guidelines will be followed as social media projects are used in the classroom:

1. Social media for educational use within the Cherokee County School System must be private, safe and secure for students and managed/monitored by the classroom teacher.
2. Inappropriate behavior will be disciplined the same way inappropriate classroom behavior is handled.
3. Consistent with Board policies, students will not be identified individually in any digital images or works. Only the first name and last initial or a pseudo name will be used.

The following rules for student participation will apply to online communication in a social media site and are designed to encourage proper online etiquette.

- Be nice.
- If you disagree, you can do so without attacking another person's character.
- If you wouldn't say it in person, don't type it online.
- Be respectful. Remember, there are actual human beings on the other end.
- Post intelligently and considerately.
- Do not SHOUT or use excessive numbers of emoticons, punctuation, and sized or color text.
- Respect copyrights of the material, sites, media, etc.

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\_\_\_\_ Yes, my child has my permission to participate in teacher-moderated, Internet-based social media projects this year. My child may share digital media on the Internet and participate in the planned collaborative activities outline here.

\_\_\_\_ No, my child does not have permission to participate in these activities. I respectfully request that my child be assigned an alternate offline activity that is comparable to the online activities planned.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_