



# Pacifica School District

375 Reina Del Mar Avenue ★ Pacifica, California ★ 94044  
(650) 738-6600 ★ (650) 557-9672 (fax)

*Preparing Students for an Evolving World*

[www.pacificasd.org](http://www.pacificasd.org)

## MEMORANDUM

Educational Support Services

Meeting of: 10/04/2017

**TO:** Wendy S. Tukloff, Ed.D., Superintendent  
for Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Will Lucey, Executive Director, Educational Support Services

**SUBJECT:** Compliance Ed. Code 49073.6 (Pupil information obtained from Social Media) (LCAP Goal: #3)

---

### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adopt Student/School Safety Programs that May Include Social Media Information (Education Code 49073.6).

### Background Information

Pursuant to California Education Code section 49073.6, any time a school district considers a plan to gather pupil information obtained from social media, there is a need to notify students and parents about the proposed program and provide the opportunity for public comment prior to adoption of the program. BP 6163.4 Student Use of Technology and E6163.4, Student Use of Technology Acceptable Use Policy, outlines the district rights to monitor student use of district technology and when students personally owned devices can be search in connection of violation of law, district policy or school rules (see attached documents).

The Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities has launched two important protocols, the Suicide Prevention Toolkit and the Student Threat Assessment Protocol, and District administrators have received training in their use. Additionally, Pacifica School District uses the Tip Line program for individuals to anonymously inform school administrators regarding concerns. In some situations, a school's ability to effectively respond to a school or pupil safety concern will be seriously hindered if school staff are not able to monitor student social media for student safety reasons, including instances or suspicions of:

*\*Cyberbullying* -- for example, Student A complains to school staff that Student B is bullying her at school and on the internet. Reviewing Student B's Facebook account could help corroborate the claims.

*\*Student self-harm* -- for example, a student's friend's report that Student A is threatening to harm herself, but Student A denies this to her counselor. Reviewing Student A's Instagram posts could help reveal the seriousness of these fears.

*\*Campus safety* -- for example, threatening graffiti using unusual symbols shows up at school and Student A is suspected of being involved. A review of his social media could help the investigation.

*\*Threat assessment* -- for example, a student reports that another student posted a warning on Facebook "not to come to school on Friday." A review of Facebook posts would provide important context necessary to determine the appropriate level of response.

The district does not intend to make a practice of reviewing student social media accounts. However, from time to time we may need to investigate publicly available online content to ensure a safe learning environment. The October 4<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting discussion is an opportunity to receive community input to ensure we are providing a safe and secure learning environment for all of our students within the context that district staff will collect and use student information gathered from any non-educational and publically viewable social media source.