



PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY AND
INFORMATION SERVICES

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Date: May 14, 2021

To: School Board, Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero

From: Don Wolff, Chief Technology Officer, Office of Technology & Information Services
Dr. Travis Paakki, Senior Director, Office of Technology & Information Services

Subject: Staff Analysis Report to the Board- Policy Revision

Policy# and Name: 8.60.040-P

I. BACKGROUND

(History of the policy revisions, timing issues, legal updates. What is the reason for the revision?)

PPS created an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) in 2007. At the time, computing devices were either in the hands of adults in the district or available in libraries and specialized labs. This policy and the subsequent revisions reflected the state of access to technology at the time of the creation of the AUP. Additionally, the policy aimed to be monolithic and encompass all aspects of technology access with an emphasis on restricted activities rather than a focus on responsible use.

The Responsible Use Policy (RUP) is a rewrite of the AUP, making it more succinct and streamlined, and removing extraneous detail and outdated technologies. Many specific technologies have been removed so that they may be addressed in detail in Administrative Directives.

II. RELATED POLICIES/BEST PRACTICES

K-12 districts are moving away from single policies that attempt to encapsulate all the practices and procedures to higher-level policies that guide practice and serve to guide the development of Administrative Procedures and practices.

In keeping pace with peers, the Office of Technology & Information Services (OTIS) has significantly revised the AUP to the Responsible Use Policy (RUP). This change reflects the goals of the Enhancement of Learning and Productivity, Equitable and Inclusive Learning, and Student Safety. Instead of an inflexible, monolithic policy, the RUP now serves as a high-level framework that will allow Administrative Directives to guide practice in a way that is responsive to changes in tools, technology, laws and academic requirements.

Similar policies are found at LAUSD, Miami-Dade, Seattle Public Schools, and in Oregon (David Douglas, Eugene, and Beaverton).

III. ANALYSIS OF SITUATION

The AUP as it stands reflects both technologies that are no longer in use, and practices that can no longer be followed. The policy updates are required to reflect these changes.

IV. FISCAL IMPACT

As this update does not reflect a change in responsibilities or requirements for OTIS, there is no financial impact.

V. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The DSC Board representative was consulted on the changes to policy. Discussions with staff groups are pending.

VI. RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE LENS

1. How have you intentionally involved stakeholders who are affected by this policy, program, practice or decision? Is there support or opposition? Why?

There has been concern expressed over the language that staff and students should have “no expectation of privacy.” It should be noted that this language exists in the current AUP Administrative Directive and is not a new addition.

2. Does the proposed policy/AD address barriers to equitable outcomes?

The policy itself does not specifically seek to address these barriers, however, this statement was added to the policy purpose statement which will guide subsequent AD development:

Equity considerations will drive District decisions about the development, distribution, and use of Technology Resources in order to ensure equitable access for every user.

3. Describe how the policy/AD revisions critically examine and alter practices. The policy seeks to remove a long list of explicitly restricted behaviors and associated penalties; instead, referring those to vetted and well-developed policies for student and staff conduct.

VII. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION/EVALUATION and COMMUNICATION PLAN

How will the revisions be implemented? Timeline? How will progress be measured on goals? What is your communication plan to stakeholders after the policy is approved?

The goal is to have this policy in place for the beginning of the 2021-22 school year. Staff will draft an update to the administrative directive 8.60.040-AD that reflects the changes in technology highlighted in this policy.

VIII. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Convey the specific recommendation on any and all of the options listed or overall recommendation regarding the revision.

Staff recommends that the previous Acceptable Use Policy 8.60.040-P be removed and replaced with the proposed Responsible Use Policy 8.60.040-P.

I. I have reviewed this staff report and concur with the recommendation to the Board.

Approved by Superintendent Direct Report, Don Wolff, Chief Technology Officer

Don Wolff

Signature



Date May 18, 2021

ATTACHMENTS

(List all supporting documentation, including resolution, etc.)

- A.
- B.
- C.

PPS District Priorities FY 2018-19

1. *Set a clear Vision and Strategic Plan*
2. *Create equitable opportunities and outcomes for all students*
3. *Build management and accountability systems and structures*
4. *Allocate budget, funding and resources focused on improving outcomes for students*