

# Hardeman County Board of Education

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in September</b>	Descriptor Term: <b>Use of Electronic Mail (e-mail)</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>1.805</b>	Issued Date: <b>09/21/00</b>
		Rescinds: <b>1.805</b>	Issued: <b>12/16/99</b>

1 Electronic mail capability among board members and district staff exists for the purpose of enhancing  
2 communication to better perform tasks associated with their positions and assignments. Therefore all staff  
3 and board members who have access to the district network shall adhere to the following guidelines when  
4 sending or receiving messages via systemwide-electronic mail (e-mail):  
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- 6 1. Because all computer hardware and software belong to the Board, all data including e-mail  
7 communications stored or transmitted on school system computers shall be monitored.  
8 Employees/board members have no right to privacy with regard to such data. Confidentiality  
9 of e- mail communication cannot be assured. E-mail correspondence may be a public record  
10 under the public records law and may be subject to public inspection.<sup>1</sup>  
11
- 12 2. Messages shall pertain to legitimate board/district business; e-mail shall not be used  
13 to circumvent requirements of the Open Meetings Act.<sup>2</sup>  
14
- 15 3. Staff/board members will be asked to sign an application for terms and conditions for *Use*  
16 *of the Internet*. Staff/board members shall not reveal their passwords to others in the network  
17 or to anyone outside of it. If anyone has reason to believe that a password has been lost or  
18 stolen or that e-mail has been accessed by someone without authorization, s/he shall contact  
19 the technology coordinator immediately.  
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- 21 4. It is the responsibility of the sender not to violate copyright laws.  
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- 23 5. Messages shall not be sent that contain material that may be defined by a reasonable person  
24 as obscene or that are racist, sexist or promote illegal or unethical activity.  
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26 Any usage contrary to the above shall be reported immediately to the director of schools and may result  
27 in the suspension and/or revocation of system access or if deemed necessary, appropriate disciplinary  
28 action may be taken.  
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37 Legal Reference:

- 38 1. TCA 10-7-512
  - 39 2. TCA 8-44-102
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