Information for Grades 6-8 Students and Parents

Web 2.0 Tools for Students and Teachers
- ELGG
- Wikispaces
- Moodle
- Weblogs (Blogs)
- Podcasts
- RSS Feeds
- Social Bookmarking
- Google Apps

Definitions of the previous Web 2.0 Tools

ELGG is a social networking engine that allows students and staff to communicate, collaborate, and create in a safe, password-protected environment.

Wikispaces is an online environment that allows multiple users to communicate, collaborate, and create articles and pages. Dublin utilizes its own private label wikispace, which can be password-protected by the teacher.

Moodle is a course management software that allows course content delivery, discussions, and online assessments.

Weblogs, or **Blogs**, are easily updated webpages (or online journal) that can be edited using a web browser, where entries are posted chronologically.

Podcasts are a series of audio and/or video files that can be accessed on-line.

RSS Feeds allow the end user to subscribe to frequently-updated material online, like blogs, podcasts, news, current events, etc..

Social Bookmarking is a way for users to collect and share their research.

Google Applications are free online tools provided to anyone with an account, which provides opportunities to collaborate, create, and share.

Purpose of these Web 2.0 Tools

Dublin City Schools offers teachers a variety of Web 2.0 tools to help students learn, demonstrate, and extend their learning beyond the traditional classroom. The tools mentioned above will help students develop their ability to collaborate, create, edit, and demonstrate many other skills to online audiences. These online tools will allow

students to have access to materials and tools while away from school, through computers and other web-access devices.

Privacy/Security

The teachers will work with the students to address issues of internet safety. Students will learn about username and password privacy, and the importance of keeping that information to themselves. Students should never log in as someone else, nor should they allow anyone other than their parents to use their personal login information. Personal images should not be used, except with written permission from parents. Images of other students should not be used, except with their parent's permission. Full names, addresses, and other specific information that would indicate the students' location should be avoided.

The students will learn about internet etiquette in regards to publishing appropriate comments. They will learn about internet permanence and the need to be truthful, tactful, and kind. Copyright will also be discussed, so students will create their own work, not just take the work of others as their own. Work that is published on the web will be public only after permission has been granted by the parents.

Permission Form

1. Students agree not to share their username and password with anyone besides their teacher or parents. Students agree to never log in as another student.

2. Students will not publish with their last names. All photos and videos used will not identify the students by full name.

3. Students are expected to treat any Web 2.0 space as a classroom space. Speech and other communications should always be classroom appropriate.

4. Web 2.0 spaces are a vehicle for sharing student thoughts/work. School appropriate topics are permissible if they are for student learning. Web 2.0 spaces provide students with access to real audiences, that can leave respectful, helpful comments. If something on the space makes a student uncomfortable, they should notify their teacher immediately.

5. Students should not download or install any software without permission. They should also not click on any advertisements or contests.

6. Students should never use a Web 2.0 space to threaten, harass, or discriminate against others. Behaviors in the Web 2.0 spaces will be treated like the classroom. Respect and courtesy are very important.

7. Students should use honesty and integrity in the creation of materials in their Web 2.0 spaces. They should identify their sources and strive for accuracy in interpretation of information. Items that are created should be helpful to others in a learning environment.

8. Students are accountable for the information they publish. If mistakes are made or information is inaccurate, admit the mistake and take every action to correct. It is important to your readers and viewers, that your product is of excellent quality.

9. Failure to follow these rules/expectations can result in academic sanctions and/or disciplinary action.

_____ My child has my permission to participate.

_____ My child may not participate and needs to do alternate assignments.

Student's Name _____

Student's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

Date_____