

# Social Media

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Definition: “Social Media” includes websites, platforms, and resources or documents that incorporate one or more of the following: blogs; microblogs such as Twitter; social networks such as Facebook; media sharing services such as YouTube, Flickr, Picasa, and Google Video; online forums; wikis; virtual worlds and other emerging technologies.

The purpose of the PSLA’s social media platforms is to provide its members with a means of communication and collaborative sharing of information dealing with school libraries and information skills. PSLA encourages its members to participate in social media and develop a concept of online community.

Social media networking is a benefit of PSLA membership. However, under special circumstances, the PSLA Board may grant social media networking privileges to those who are not PSLA members.

Code of conduct:

All users of PSLA’s social media platforms are responsible for exercising good judgment when communicating online, as their words and actions reflect on PSLA. Users are expected to adhere to the following code:

1. All posts must be written in a professional tone and pursue consistent, helpful and focused conversations. Subject matter and tone must be positive in order to maintain a friendly and valuable experience for all PSLA users.
2. Posts are to be free of unfair bias, obscene material, and defamatory, demeaning or offensive language.
3. Commercial or self-promotional materials are not to be posted.
4. Copyright regulations and fair use of materials must be maintained at all times. PSLA encourages all contributors to recognize all original work posted.
5. Posts should include the contributor’s name, title and library name when appropriate.
6. All users must respect the privacy and confidentiality of all participants.

The PSLA Board also encourages school librarians to engage in personal- and school-level social media use, but to clearly distinguish personal opinions from the official positions of PSLA where appropriate. An example disclaimer would be: “The opinions expressed on this website are my own and do not necessarily represent those of Pennsylvania School Librarians Association.”

PSLA does not endorse or take responsibility for the information and opinions posted by members.

Adopted, PSLA Board of Directors June 15, 2012  
Amended, June 15, 2020