YAKIMA VALLEY LIBRARIES

In the Matter of Adopting Social Networking Policy)
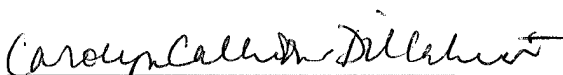
**RESOLUTION
#09-007**

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees adopts policy for Yakima Valley Libraries;

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a policy for Social Networking Policy and Protocols for staff and the public;

WHEREAS, the attached policy has been recommended by the Social Networking Committee, and the Interim Director, and their recommendations are included in the attached document;
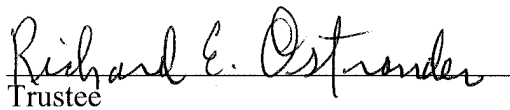
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees adopts the Social Networking Policy as presented:
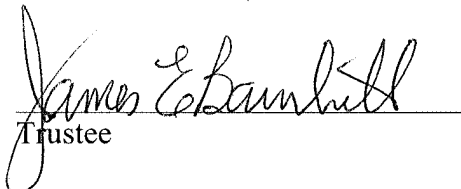
ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees this 22nd day of September, 2009.

_____   _____
Trustee   Trustee

_____   _____
Trustee   Trustee

_____
Trustee

1. PURPOSE OF THE SOCIAL NETWORKING POLICY

Yakima Valley Libraries ("the Library") *supports lifelong learning and an informed citizenry by providing free, open, and full access to a vast array of ideas and information.* The Library serves as the heart of a community, providing public access to information and community interaction, and the Library's online presence is an extension of the physical meeting space. Yakima Valley Libraries offers blogs, community reviews, current event updates and other online tools as a welcoming online space where library users and staff can share ideas, opinions and information about library-related subjects, events and issues.

2. PRIVACY: PERSONAL INFORMATION AND USE OF THE SOCIAL NETWORKING TOOLS

The Library's contact with users in social networking sites is limited to interaction on those sites, unless granted permission by users for outside contact. Please know that social sites are not secure, so users should not post or message any personal or sensitive information. Direct contact with the library, via email or in person, is encouraged for reference help, volunteer opportunities, account questions, or similar activities. Also, users should be aware that third party websites have their own privacy policies.

3. IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS: ACCESS TO SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

The library serves as an important information portal for young people, and social networking sites can strengthen their technological and writing skills and build healthy social networks. As with more traditional resources, the Library does not act in place of or in the absence of a parent and is not responsible for enforcing any restrictions with a parents or guardian may place on a minor's use of this resource. However, the Library strongly encourages parents or legal guardians to discuss internet safety with their children and to monitor and supervise their online activity. Concerned parents may choose to filter internet access for their children (under 18) on library computer stations, which may include the Library's social sites. Please see our internet filtering policy for more information.

All patrons are encouraged to report abuse or inappropriate solicitations to the website's administration, local law enforcement, and organizations such as www.cybertipline.org or www.wiredsafety.org. For additional information and resources about internet Safety, www.getnetwise.org and www.wiredsafety.org are excellent places to begin. If you have any questions or comments, please inquire at your local library.

4. SOCIAL NETWORKING TOOLS: COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

Public comments and participation are encouraged, and staff and the public will use all Yakima Valley Libraries sites or forums in a respectful and appropriate way. The Library reserves the right to remove any posting or part of a posting with content or containing a link to content that is:

- Obscene or offensive
- Insulting, threatening, or a personal attack
- Potentially libelous
- Plagiarized
- Private or personal information
- Unrelated to the content of the forum
- A commercial or political promotion or spam
- Interfering with the function of the site

A user may be banned without notice for any of the above offenses. The Library is not responsible or liable for content posted by users in any forum, message board, or other site.

The Library also reserves the right to reproduce comments, posts, and messages for library purposes, such as promoting book reviews. Identifying information, other than first name, will be removed unless prior approval is granted by the user.

By choosing to comment you agree to these rules.

5. REVISION OF POLICIES

The role and utility of social networking sites will be evaluated periodically by library staff, and may be terminated at any time without notice to users. The Library has the right to edit, delete, move or close any comment or forum at any time.

Adapted from the Puyallup Public Library (WA), Whitman Public Library (CA), Newport Public Library, and New York Public Library (NY). Original content by the Yakima Valley Libraries (WA).

Adopted: September 22, 2009