

There are many different Educational Technology tools available. As educators, it is important that we make informed decisions regarding the tools we use in the classroom. One of the most important considerations when selecting any tool should be the security of student/staff information. Below is a list of tools that are Approved, Cautioned, and Not Approved by the District School Board of Niagara.

APPROVED

BookFlix
 Britannica Online
 Career Cruising
 Desire2Learn (D2L)
 Dreambox
 Encompass for Success
 GitHub Education
 Gizmos
 Google Apps for Education
 Mathify
 Medianet & ERM Resources (Learn360, Khan Academy, etc)
 Mindomo
 Office 365
 Ontario Educational Resources Bank
 Pixton
 School Cash Online
 Scratch

Benefits of using these tools;

- Managed and supported by DSBN & Ministry for security and privacy
- Data stored on secure servers
- One Click Access through D2L

CAUTION

Twitter

Remind

Facebook

- Separate Personal account from school account
- Abide by Media Release Forms
- One Way communication
- Using student images appropriately with parent consent
- Depersonalized student information (ie. use student initials)

Not APPROVED

The programs below do not comply with the acceptable use and privacy standards of the District School Board of Niagara.

Class Dojo
 Seesaw
 Sesame
 SnapChat
 Instagram

There are safer and more secure alternatives to using the tools mentioned above. Such as ;

- D2L
- Brightspace Portfolio
- Google Classroom
- Google Sites

Questions to Consider When Selecting Software

1. Does the vendor comply with Child Online Privacy and Protection Act?
2. Is it possible to de-personalize student information (ie. use generic logins)?
3. Is a purchase required to use the tool?
4. How does the user close the account and remove their information?
5. Is the website secure (https://) and is Data transmitted securely?
6. Is parental permission required?
7. Who owns the data?
8. Will information be used for marketing?
9. Is there advertising present on the site?
10. Can accounts be shared publicly?
11. Can this be independently verified?