
STUDENTS - STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

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I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set forth practices, parameters, and guidelines for access to and use of the district's electronic technologies, including electronic communications, the district's network, and Internet social networking tools.

II. General Statement of Policy

In making decisions regarding student access to the district's computer network, electronic technologies, and Internet, the district considers its own educational mission, vision, and goals. Access to the district's computer network and Internet enables students to explore libraries, databases, web pages, and other online resources, and exchange messages with people around the world.

III. Educational Purposes

The district purpose in offering access to the district's electronic technologies to students is more specific than providing them with general access. Students are expected to use the district's electronic technologies to support classroom activities, educational research, or their own enrichment. Use of the district's electronic technologies is a privilege, not a right. Misuse of the district's electronic technologies may lead to discipline of the offending student. The district's network, an educational technology, is a limited forum. The district may restrict speech for educational reasons.

IV. Unacceptable Uses of Electronic Technologies and District Network

Electronic technologies are assets of the district and are protected from unauthorized access, modification, destruction, or disclosure. The following uses of the electronic technologies and district network ("electronic technologies") are considered unacceptable:

- A. Users **will not** use the district's electronic technologies to access, review, upload, download, complete, store, print, post, receive, transmit or distribute:
 - 1. Pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material or other visual depictions;

2. Obscene, abusive, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language;
 3. Materials that use language or images that are inappropriate in the education setting or disruptive to the educational process;
 4. Materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people or that may constitute harassment, discrimination, or threatens the safety of others.
- B. Users **will not** use the district's electronic technologies for political campaigning.
- C. No person shall knowingly alter, delete, or destroy data, information, or programmatic information storage media, or peripheral equipment without permission from authorized personnel from Technology Services Group (TSG). This does not apply to personally generated files and documents which can be deleted by the user who created them.
- D. No person shall add, delete, or modify the default setup on individual lab computers or files on the file server without permission from authorized personnel from TSG. This includes changing screen savers, enabling file sharing capabilities, or installing personal software on hard drives or network drives. Lab systems will be periodically checked and anything not authorized will be deleted.
- E. No person shall use a computer anonymously or use pseudonyms to attempt to escape from prosecution of laws or regulations, or otherwise to escape responsibility for their actions.

V. **Internet Use Agreement**

- A. The proper use of the Internet and educational technologies and the educational value to be gained from proper usage is the joint responsibility of students, parents, and employees of the district.
- B. This policy requires the permission of and supervision by the district's designated professional staff before a student may use a district account or educational technologies to access the Internet.
- C. Students have access to Internet resources through their classroom, library, or school computer lab.
- D. Students using social networking tools and curriculum content management software for a teacher's assignment are required to keep personal information out of their postings.

VI. Student Online Ethics

- A. Students accessing or using Web 2.0 tools including, but not limited to, blogs, wikis, podcasts, and Moodle for student assignments are required to keep personal information out of their postings. Students will not post or give out photographs of themselves or others, their family name, password, user name, email address, home address, school name, city, country, or other information that could help someone locate or contact them in person.
- B. Students will not log in to the network as another classmate.
- C. Students using Web 2.0 tools will treat these tools as a classroom space. Speech that is inappropriate for class is not appropriate on the Internet. Students are expected to treat others and their ideas online with respect.
- D. Assignments on the Internet and using Web 2.0 tools are like any other assignment in school. Students, in the course of completing the assignment, are expected to abide by policies and procedures in the student handbook, including those policies regarding plagiarism and acceptable use of technology.
- E. Student blogs are to be a forum for student expression; however, they are first and foremost a tool for learning. The district may restrict speech for valid educational reasons as outlined in Board policy.
- F. Students shall not use the Internet, in connection with the teacher assignments, to harass, discriminate, bully, or threaten the safety of others. If students receive a comment on a blog or other Web 2.0 tool used in school that makes them feel uncomfortable or is not respectful, they must report this to a teacher and must not respond to the comment.
- G. Students accessing Web 2.0 tools from home or school, using school equipment, shall not download or install any software without permission, and not click on advertisements or competitions.
- H. Students should be honest, fair, and courageous in gathering, interpreting, and expressing information for the benefit of others. Always identify sources and test the accuracy of information from all sources.
- I. Students will treat information, sources, subjects, colleagues, and information consumers as people deserving of respect. Gathering and expressing information should never cause harm or threaten to be harmful to any person or group of people.
- J. Students are accountable to their readers, listeners, viewers, and each other. Admit mistakes and correct them promptly. Expose unethical information and practices of others.

- K. Failure to follow this code of ethics will result in academic sanctions and/or disciplinary action.

VIII. Liability

Use of the district's educational technologies is at the user's own risk. The system is provided on an "as is, as available" basis. The district will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer. The district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of any advice or information obtained through or stored on the school district system, nor is it responsible for damages or injuries from improper communications or damage to property used to access school computers and online resources. The district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through unauthorized use of the district's educational technologies or the Internet.