

STUDENT NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

The Board of Education is pleased to provide network and Internet services to its students. The Board encourages students to utilize the District network and Internet in order to promote educational excellence in our schools by providing them with the opportunity to develop the resource sharing, innovation, and communication skills and tools which will be essential to life and work in the 21st century. The instructional use of the District network and Internet will be guided by the Board's policy on Instructional Materials (Policy 2521).

The Board has the right to place restrictions on the use of network and Internet resources to assure that the use of the District's network is in accord with its educational purpose. Student use of the District's computer, network, and Internet services ("Network") will be governed by this policy, the related guidelines and the student disciplinary process.

Network access is provided as a tool for student education. The Board reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store at any time and without prior notice any and all usage of the network access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such files shall be and remain the property of the School District and no user shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

The Board utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate, and/or harmful to minors. Nevertheless, parents/guardians are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services on the Internet that the Board has not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their parents/guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial. Parents/Guardians assume risks by consenting to allow their child to independently use the Internet. Parents/guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the Internet. The Board supports and respects each family's right to decide whether to apply for independent student access to the Internet.

The Superintendent is directed to prepare guidelines which address students' safety and security while using e-mail, social media, and other forms of direct electronic communication. These guidelines will prohibit disclosure of personal identification information, unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking"), and other unlawful online activities.

Pursuant to Federal Law, students shall receive education about:

- A. Safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of **direct** electronic communications;
- B. The dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally identifiable information; ~~and~~
- C. The consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., “hacking”), cyberbullying, and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online; **and**
- D. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.**

Building principals are responsible for providing training so that Internet users under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board expects that staff members will provide guidance and instruction ~~to students in the appropriate use of the Internet~~ **for their students regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified above. Furthermore, staff members may monitor the online activities of the students under their supervision while at school.**

Monitoring may include, but is not necessarily limited to, visual observations of online activities during class sessions; or use of specific monitoring tools to review browser history and network, server, and computer logs.

All Internet users (and their parents if they are minors) are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on the Board's computers/network and the Internet just as they are in classrooms, school hallways, and other school premises and school sponsored events. Communications on the Internet are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communication apply. Access is a privilege - not a right. The Board does not sanction any use of the Internet that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students shall not access social media for personal use from the District's network but may be permitted to have limited, controlled access to particular social media that has been identified for educational use in accordance with their teacher's pre-approved instructional plan.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked, and disciplinary action taken against them. Users granted access to the Internet through the Board's computers assume personal responsibility and liability, both civil and criminal, for uses of the Internet not authorized by this Board policy and its accompanying guidelines.

The Board designates the Superintendent and the Director of Technology as the administrators responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to the use of the Network and the Internet for instructional purposes.

H.R. 4577, P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000
47 U.S.C. 254(h), (1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended
20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965,
as amended
18 U.S.C. 2256
18 U.S.C. 1460
18 U.S.C. 2246

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