

Students

Electronic Technologies Acceptable Use

I. Purpose

This policy sets forth parameters and guidelines for access to the school district's electronic technologies, use of the Internet, use of personal electronic devices on the district's network or connected to district software, electronic communications, use of the district's network, Internet, and social networking tools.

II. General Statement of Policy

In making decisions regarding student and employee access to the school district computer system and the Internet, including electronic communications, the district considers its own stated educational mission, goals, and strategic directions. Technology skills are fundamental to the preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the district computer system and to the Internet enables students and employees to explore countless libraries, web pages, databases, and other resources while exchanging messages with people around the world. The district expects that employees will blend thoughtful use of the district computer system and the Internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in their use.

III. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the definitions included in this section apply.

- A. "Harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
 - 1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; or
 - 2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
 - 3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or

scientific value as to minors.

- B. "School-issued device" means hardware or software that the school district, acting independently or with a technology provider, provides to an individual student or employee for that student's or employee's dedicated personal use. A school-issued device includes a device issued through a one-to-one program.
- C. "Social Media" refers to any website and application that enables users to create and share content or to participate in social networking. For reference in this policy, social media does not refer to any learning management system (Schoology or Seesaw) or content management systems (Google Workspace).
- D. "Technology provider" means a person who:
 - 1. contracts with the district, as part of a one-to-one program or otherwise, to provide a school-issued device for student use; and
 - 2. creates, receives, or maintains educational data pursuant or incidental to a contract with the district.

III. Limited Educational Purpose

The school district is providing students and employees with access to the district computer system, which includes Internet access. The purpose of the system is more specific than providing students and employees with general access to the Internet. The Internet is accessible in the district for use as an educational resource. Users are expected to use Internet access through the district system to further educational and personal goals consistent with the mission of the district and school policies. Uses which might be acceptable on a user's private personal account on another system may not be acceptable on this limited-purpose network.

IV. Use of System is a Privilege

The use of the school district system and access to use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the district system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

Electronic technologies are assets of the district and are protected from unauthorized access, modification, destruction, or disclosure. Use of personal devices, while on district property, is subject to all policies and guidelines, as

applicable, plus any state and federal laws related to Internet use, including copyright laws.

V. Unacceptable Uses

A. While not an exhaustive list, the following uses of the school district system and Internet resources or accounts are considered unacceptable:

1. Users will not use the district system to create, record, access, review, upload, download, store, print, post, receive, transmit, or distribute:
 - a. Pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material or other visual depictions;
 - b. Obscene, abusive, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language or images;
 - c. Materials that use language or images that are inappropriate in the education setting or disruptive to the educational process;
 - d. Materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people, or that may constitute harassment or discrimination, or that threatens the safety of others;
 - e. Orders for shopping online during time designated as work or academic time by the district;
 - f. Storage of personal photos, videos, music, or files not related to educational or extra-curricular purposes for any length of time; and
2. Use of social media for non-academic purposes
 - a. Students aged 13 and above may engage in social media as it is connected to extra-curricular or co-curricular activities, and for academic purposes.
 - b. Per federal law, students under the age of 13 will not be encouraged or required to create accounts or participate in social media, including for academic or extra-curricular purposes.
3. Users will not use the district system to knowingly or recklessly post, transmit, or distribute false or defamatory information about a

person or organization, or to harass another person, or to engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks. This prohibition includes using any technology or other electronic communication off school premises to the extent that student learning or the school environment is substantially and materially disrupted.

4. Users will not use the district system to engage in any illegal act or violate any local, state, or federal statute or law.
5. Users will not use the district system to vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another person or organization; will not make deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt equipment, software, or system performance by spreading computer viruses, engaging in “spamming,” or by any other means; will not tamper with, modify, or change the district system software, hardware, or wiring; will not take any action to violate the district’s security system; and will not use the district system in such a way as to disrupt the use of the system by other users.
6. Users will not use the district system to gain unauthorized access to information resources, or to access another person’s materials, information, or files without the direct permission of that person. Users will not attempt to log in through another person’s account, or use computer accounts, access codes, or network identification other than those assigned to the user. This clause is not applicable to district technology staff who need to access a system due to a threat, troubleshooting, diagnosing issues, or other IT-related needs that uphold this and other district policies.
7. Individual passwords for computers and information resources are confidential and must not be shared.
8. Users will not use the district system to post or share private information about another person, personal contact information about themselves or other persons, or other personally identifiable information, including, but not limited to, addresses, telephone numbers, school addresses, work addresses, identification numbers, account numbers, access codes or passwords, labeled photographs, or other information that would make the individual’s identity easily traceable, and will not repost a message that was sent to the user privately without permission of the person who sent the message.
 - a. This paragraph does not prohibit the posting of employee contact information on district webpages or communications between employees and other individuals when such communications are made for education-related purposes

(i.e., communications with parents/guardians or other staff members related to students). Refer to Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Student Records) for direction on directory information for students and how this can be used.

- b. Employees creating or posting school-related webpages may include personal contact information about themselves on a webpage. However, employees may not post personal contact information or other personally identifiable information about students unless:
 - (1) such information is classified by the district as directory information and verification is made that the district has not received notice from a parent/guardian or eligible student that such information is not to be designated as directory information in accordance with district policy; or
 - (2) such information is not classified by the district as directory information but written consent for release of the information to be posted has been obtained from a parent/guardian or eligible student in accordance with district policy.
 - c. These prohibitions specifically prohibit a user from utilizing the district system to post personal information about a user or another individual on social networks, including, but not limited to, social networks such as “Facebook,” “X” (formerly called “Twitter”), “Instagram,” “Snapchat,” “TikTok,” “Reddit,” and similar websites or applications.
- 9. Users, outside of IT staff, must not deliberately or knowingly delete a student or employee file, email, or stored information.
 - 10. Users will not use the district system to violate copyright laws or usage licensing agreements, or otherwise to use another person’s property without the person’s prior approval or proper citation, including the downloading or exchanging of pirated software or copying software to or from any school computer. Users will not plagiarize content they find on the internet or submit content generated online as their own original work.
 - 11. Users will not use the district system for conducting business, for unauthorized commercial purposes, or for financial gain unrelated to the mission of the district. Users will not use the district system to offer or provide goods or services or for product advertisement. Users will not use the district system to purchase goods or services for personal use without authorization from the appropriate district

official.

12. Users will not use the school district system to engage in bullying or cyberbullying in violation of the school district's Bullying Prohibition Policy. This prohibition includes using any technology or other electronic communication off school premises to the extent that student learning or the school environment is substantially and materially disrupted.
 13. Users will not access, download, or use a ~~school~~-district website, application, software, program, or other service (1) to nudyify an image or video; or (2) nudyify an image or video on behalf of a user. The following definitions apply to this subsection:
 - a. "Identifiable individual" means a person that is identifiable:
 - (1) from the image itself, by the person depicted in the image, or by another person; or
 - (2) from personal information displayed in connection with the image.
 - b. "Intimate part" has the meaning given in state law.
 - c. "Nudyify" or "nudyified" means the process by which:
 - (1) an image or video is altered or generated to depict an intimate part not depicted in an original unaltered image or video of an identifiable individual; and
 - (2) the altered or generated image or video is so realistic that a reasonable person would believe that the intimate part belongs to the identifiable individual.
- B. A student or employee who engages in the foregoing unacceptable uses of the Internet or district equipment when they are off district premises may be in violation of this policy, in addition to other district policies. Regardless of whether district equipment was used for the unacceptable use, the district has the right and may be obligated to regulate the off-campus speech or conduct of its students or employees when that speech or conduct materially disrupts the school environment, involves substantial disorder, or constitutes an invasion of the rights of others. Examples of such violations include, but are not limited to, where the district system is compromised or if a district employee or student is negatively impacted. If the district receives a report of an unacceptable use originating from a non-school computer or resource, the district may investigate such reports to the best of its ability. Students or employees may be subject to disciplinary action for such conduct, including, but not

limited to, suspension or cancellation of the use or access to the district computer system and the Internet and discipline under other appropriate district policies, including suspension, expulsion, exclusion, or termination of employment.

- C. If a user inadvertently accesses unacceptable materials or an unacceptable Internet site, the user will immediately disclose the inadvertent access to an appropriate district official. In the case of a district employee, the immediate disclosure will be to the employee's immediate supervisor and/or the building administrator. This disclosure may serve as a defense against an allegation that the user has intentionally violated this policy.

VI. Filter

- A. With respect to any of its computers with Internet access, the school district will filter the online activities of both minors and adults and employ technology protection measures during any use of such computers by minors and adults. The technology protection measures utilized will block or filter Internet access to any visual depictions that are:
 - 1. Obscene;
 - 2. Child pornography; or
 - 3. Harmful to minors.
- B. Software filtering technology will be narrowly tailored and will not discriminate based on viewpoint.
- C. An administrator, supervisor, or other person authorized by the superintendent may disable the technology protection measure, during use by an adult, to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.
- D. The district will educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat-enabled environments and cyberbullying awareness and response.

VII. Consistency with Other School District Policies

Use of the school district computer system and use of the Internet will be consistent with district policies and the mission of the district.

VIII. Limited Expectation of Privacy

- A. By authorizing use of the school district system, the district does not

relinquish control over materials on the system or contained in files on the system. Users should expect only limited privacy in the contents of personal files on the district system.

- B. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the district system may lead to a discovery that a user has violated this policy, another district policy, or the law.
- C. An individual investigation or search will be conducted if district authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover a violation of law or district policy.
- D. Parents/guardians have the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their child's files and email files in accordance with district policy. Parents/guardians have the right to request the termination of their child's individual account at any time.
- E. District employees should be aware that the district retains the right at any time to investigate or review the contents of their files and email files. In addition, district employees should be aware that data and other materials in files maintained on the district system may be subject to review, disclosure, or discovery under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.
- F. The district will cooperate fully with local, state, and federal authorities in any investigation concerning or related to any illegal activities or activities not in compliance with district policies conducted through the district system.

IX. Internet Use Agreement

- A. The proper use of the Internet, and the educational value to be gained from proper Internet use, is the joint responsibility of students, parents/guardians, and employees of the school 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 resource to access the Internet.
- C. The Internet Acceptable Use Agreement form for students must be read and signed by the user and the parent/guardian. This form is signed annually via the Parent Portal. The Internet Acceptable Use Agreement form for employees must be signed by the employee.

X. Guest Access and Internet Use

- A. Guest access to the school district's open wireless network is provided as a service to the community, and is subject to all district policies and

guidelines, plus any state and federal laws related to Internet use, including copyright laws. See Appendix VII, Personal Device Access.

- B. Guest access provides limited bandwidth, filtered for the following services:
 - 1. Web access (http and https)
 - 2. Email services (pop, imap)
 - 3. Virtual private network services (VPN)
- C. Limited technical support is provided for guest access and is identified in the service level agreement found on the district technology website.

XI. Limitation on School District Liability

Use of the school district system 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, including, but not limited to, loss, damage, or unavailability of data stored on district cloud services, tapes, hard drives, or servers, or for delays or changes in or interruptions of service or mis-deliveries or non-deliveries of information or materials, regardless of the cause. The district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of any advice or information obtained through or stored on the district system. The district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through unauthorized use of the district system or the Internet.

XII. User Notification

- A. All users will be notified of the school district policies relating to Internet use.
- B. This notification will include the following:
 - 1. Notification that Internet use is subject to compliance with district policies.
 - 2. Disclaimers limiting the district's liability relative to:
 - a. Information stored on district cloud services, tapes, hard drives, or servers.
 - b. Information retrieved through district computers, networks, or online resources.
 - c. Personal property used to access district computers, networks, or online resources.
 - d. Unauthorized financial obligations resulting from use of

district resources/accounts to access the Internet.

3. A description of the privacy rights and limitations of district sponsored/managed Internet accounts.
4. Notification that, even though the district may use technical means to limit student Internet access, these limits do not provide a foolproof means for enforcing the provisions of this acceptable use policy.
5. Notification that goods and services can be purchased over the Internet that could potentially result in unwanted financial obligations, and that any financial obligation incurred by a student through the Internet is the sole responsibility of the student and/or the student's parents/guardians.
6. Notification that the collection, creation, reception, maintenance, and dissemination of data via the Internet, including electronic communications, is governed by district policy.
7. Notification that, should the user violate the district's acceptable use policy, the user's access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.
8. Notification that all provisions of the acceptable use policy are subordinate to local, state, and federal laws.

XIII. Parents'/Guardians' Responsibility; Notification of Student Internet Use

- A. Outside of school, parents/guardians bear responsibility for the same guidance of Internet use as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, radio, movies, and other possibly offensive media. Parents/guardians are responsible for monitoring their student's use of the school district system and of the Internet if the student is accessing the district system from home or a remote location.
- B. Parents/guardians will be notified that their students will be using district resources/accounts to access the Internet and that the district will provide parents/guardians the option to request alternative activities not requiring Internet access. This notification should include:
 1. A copy of the user notification form provided to the student user.
 2. A description of parent/guardian responsibilities.
 3. A statement that the Internet Acceptable Use Agreement must be signed by the user and the parent/guardian prior to use by the

student.

4. A statement that the district's acceptable use policy is available for parental/guardian review.

XIV. Notification Regarding Technology Providers

- A. Within 30 days of the start of each school year, the school district will give parents/guardians and students direct and timely notice, by United States mail, e-mail, or other direct form of communication, of any curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider contract affecting a student's educational data. The notice will:
 1. identify each curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider with access to educational data;
 2. identify the educational data affected by the curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider contract; and
 3. include information about the contract inspection and provide contact information for a school department to which a parent/guardian or student may direct questions or concerns regarding any program or activity that allows a curriculum, testing, or assessment technology provider to access a student's educational data.
- B. A contract between a technology provider and the district will include requirements to ensure appropriate security safeguards for educational data. The contract will require that:
 1. the technology provider's employees or contractors have access to educational data only if authorized; and
 2. the technology provider's employees or contractors may be authorized to access educational data only if access is necessary to fulfill the official duties of the employee or contractor.
- C. Upon request, the district will provide parents/guardians and students an opportunity to inspect a complete copy of any contract with a technology provider.
- D. All educational data created, received, maintained, or disseminated by a technology provider pursuant or incidental to a contract with the district are not the technology provider's property.

XV. School-Issued Devices

- A. Except as provided in paragraph B, the school district or a technology

provider will not electronically access or monitor:

1. any location-tracking feature of a school-issued device;
2. any audio or visual receiving, transmitting, or recording feature of a school-issued device; or
3. student interactions with a school-issued device, including but not limited to keystrokes and web-browsing activity.

B. The district or a technology provider may only engage in activities prohibited by paragraph A if:

1. the activity is limited to a noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring by district employees, student teachers, staff contracted by the district, a vendor, or the Minnesota Department of Education, and notice is provided in advance;
2. the activity is permitted under a judicial warrant;
3. the district is notified or becomes aware that the device is missing or stolen;
4. the activity is necessary to respond to an imminent threat to life or safety and the access is limited to that purpose;
5. the activity is necessary to comply with federal or state law; or
6. the activity is necessary to participate in federal or state funding programs, including but not limited to the E-Rate program.

C. If the district or a technology provider interacts with a school-issued device as provided in paragraph B, clause 4, it will, within 72 hours of the access, notify the student to whom the school-issued device was issued or that student's parent/guardian. Such notice will include a written description of the interaction, including which features of the device were accessed and a description of the threat. In the instance in which notification would pose a threat to life or safety, notification will instead be given within 72 hours following the resolution of the imminent threat.

XVI. Use of Email

The school district provides access to electronic mail for district communication between district employees and students, families, and community.

A. The email system will not be used for outside business ventures or other activities that conflict with school board policy.

- B. All emails received by, sent through, or generated by computers using the district network are subject to review by the district.
- C. Appropriate language must be used when communicating using the district email system or network.
- D. All emails are assumed to be documents that can be disclosed to the public unless the content of the email is protected as private or confidential information under data privacy laws. All information contained in an email must be treated in accordance with district policy, regarding student and employee data privacy.
- E. Employees will report inappropriate emails to the media specialist, the employee's supervisor, or the director of media and technology services.
- F. Emails having content governed by the district's record retention schedule must be kept in accordance with the retention schedule adopted pursuant to Policy 719 (Records Retention).

XVII. Cell Phone and Other Electronic Communication Device Use

- A. The school district has established rules and procedures regarding student possession and use of cell phones and other electronic communication devices in schools. These rules and procedures seek to minimize the impact of cell phones and other communication devices on student behavior, mental health, and academic attainment. These rules and procedures have been designed for specific school buildings, grade levels, or similar criteria.

Under these guidelines, at K-8 levels, all electronic communication devices must be stored "Away for the Day" in backpacks or lockers. High school uses a three-tier system where devices are stored away by default (Tier 1), but teachers may permit use for specific learning tasks (Tier 2) or independent work (Tier 3), with device use allowed outside classrooms following digital citizenship guidelines.

- B. Students are prohibited from using a cell phone or other electronic communication device to engage in conduct prohibited by school district policies including, but not limited to, cheating, bullying, harassment, and malicious and sadistic conduct.
- C. If the district has a reasonable suspicion that a student has violated a district policy, rule, or law by use of a cell phone or other electronic communication device, the district may search the device. The search of the device will be reasonably related in scope to the circumstances justifying the search.

- D. Students who use a cell phone or other electronic communication device during the school day and/or in violation of district policies may be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to the district's discipline policy. In addition, a student's cell phone or electronic communication device may be confiscated by the district and, if applicable, provided to law enforcement. Cell phones or other electronic communication devices that are confiscated and retained by the district will be returned in accordance with school building procedures.
- E. Exceptions
1. Nothing in this policy prohibits a student from using a cell phone or other electronic communications device for a purpose documented in the student's individualized education program, a plan developed under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or a health care plan in force regarding the student.
 2. A student may use a cell phone or other electronic communication device to monitor or address a health concern or medical condition upon permission granted by district administration.
 3. Students may use a cell phone or other electronic communication device when the use is necessary to respond to or report an emergency. For purposes of this policy, "emergency" means an actual or imminent threat to the health or safety of students and/or district personnel, which may result in death, bodily injury, or substantial property damage.
 4. A student may use a cell phone or other electronic communication device during a time at which use would otherwise be prohibited when the student has been granted permission from a staff member to use the device. If the district implements a curriculum that uses technology, students may be allowed to use their own cell phone or other electronic communication devices to access the curriculum. Students who are allowed to use their own devices to access the curriculum will be granted access to any application or electronic materials when they are available to students who do not use their own devices, or provided free of charge to students who do not use their own devices for curriculum.
 5. Students who need to make a call may request permission to use a telephone in the building office.

XVIII. Limit on Screen Time for Children in Preschool and Kindergarten

A child in a publicly funded preschool or kindergarten program may not use an individual-use screen, such as a tablet, smartphone, or other digital media, without engagement from a teacher or other students. This section does not

apply to a child for whom the district has an individualized family service plan, an individualized education program, or a 504 plan in effect.

XIV. Implementation; Policy Review

- A. The school district administration may develop appropriate user notification forms, guidelines, and procedures necessary to implement this policy for submission to the school board for approval.
- B. The administration will revise the user notifications, including student and parent/guardian notifications, if necessary, to reflect the adoption of these guidelines and procedures.
- C. The district Internet policies and procedures are available for review by all parents/guardians, staff, and members of the community.

Legal References:

~~Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)~~

15 U.S.C. § 6501 *et seq.* (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act)

17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (Copyrights)

20 U.S.C. § 1232g (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

20 U.S.C. § 1400, *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

20 U.S.C. § 6751 *et seq.* (Enhancing Education Through Technology Act of 2001)

[29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* \(Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973\)](#)

47 U.S.C. § 254 (Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000 (CIPA))

~~29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)~~

47 C.F.R. § 54.520 (FCC Rules Implementing CIPA)

[Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 \(Minnesota Government Data Practices Act\)](#)

Minn. Stat. § 121A.031 (School Student Bullying Policy)

Minn. Stat. § 125B.15 (Internet Access for Students)

Minn. Stat. § 125B.26 (Telecommunications/Internet Access Equity Aid)

[Minn. Stat. § 325E.91 \(Prohibition on Nudification Technology\)](#)

[Minn. Stat. § 609.341, subd. 5 \(Definitions\)](#)

Mahonoy Area School District v B.L., 594 U.S., 141 S. Ct. 2038 (2021)

Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Cmty. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969)

United States v. American Library Association, 539 U.S. 194 (2003)

Sagehorn v. Indep. Sch. Dist. No. 728, 122 F.Supp.2d 842 (D. Minn. 2015)

R.S. v. Minnewaska Area Sch. Dist. No. 2149, 894 F.Supp.2d 1128 (D. Minn. 2012)

Tatro v. Univ. of Minnesota, 800 N.W.2d 811 (Minn. App. 2011), *aff'd* on other grounds 816 N.W.2d 509 (Minn. 2012)

S.J.W. v. Lee's Summit R-7 Sch. Dist., 696 F.3d 771 (8th Cir. 2012)

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc. v. Camdenton R-III Sch. Dist., 853 F.Supp.2d 888 (W.D. Mo. 2012)

M.T. v. Cent. York Sch. Dist., 937 A.2d 538 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 2007)

Cross References:

Policy 403 (Discipline of School District Employees)

Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)
Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence Prohibition, Students and Employees)
Policy 506 (Student Conduct and Discipline)
Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition)
Policy 515 (Protection and Privacy of Student Records)
Policy 519 (Student Interviews by Outside Agencies)
Policy 521 (Student Disability Nondiscrimination)
Policy 522 (Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedures and Process)
Policy 601 (Educational Competencies, Academic Standards, and Instructional Curriculum)
Policy 603 (Curriculum and Program Review and Development)
Policy 606 (Selection and Review of Text, Materials, Content, or Issues)
Policy 622 (Copyright Policy)
Policy 806 (Emergency Management)
Policy 904 (Distribution or Display of Materials on School District Property)

Policy		INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 273
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revised:	<u> </u> / <u> </u> / <u>26</u>	

Appendix I to Policy 524

STUDENT ONLINE ACCEPTABLE USE CONSENT FORM

Student:

By signing below, I agree to follow Edina Public Schools' Electronic Technologies Acceptable Use policy. I understand that my use of the network is a privilege and requires proper online responsibility. I further understand that misuse of the network will result in disciplinary action.

Student Name (PRINT) _____

Student I.D. Number _____

(MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)

Student Signature _____

(MIDDLE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

School Building _____

Parent or Guardian:

I give permission for my child to have access to the Internet using the district's computer network. I also understand that some material accessible through the interconnected systems may be inappropriate for school-age students. I agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Edina Public Schools from any and all claims arising out of or related to the use of this interconnected computer system. I further understand that I have the right to withdraw my approval in writing at any time.

☐

Approved

☐

Disapproved

Parent/Guardian Name (PRINT) _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____

This form should be completed electronically through the online portal.

STUDENT ONLINE CODE OF ETHICS

In the Edina Public Schools, it is important to use information and technology in safe, legal, and responsible ways. At the same time, the school district has a desire for our students to leave our system with a positive digital footprint. We embrace these conditions as facets of being a digital citizen and strive to help students develop a positive digital footprint.

1. Students accessing or using electronic products, including but not limited to blogs, wikis, podcasts, Google workspace, and district learning management systems for student assignments are required to keep personal information out of their postings.

At the high school level, parents/guardians may opt to allow their students to utilize their full name in order to increase their positive digital footprint when publishing to an authentic audience.

2. Students will select online names that are appropriate and will consider the information and images that are posted online at an age-appropriate level.
3. Students will not log in to the network, devices, or other educational technologies as another user.
4. Students using electronic tools will treat these tools as a classroom space. Speech that is inappropriate for class is not appropriate on electronic tools. Students are expected to treat others and their ideas online with respect.
5. Assignments on electronic 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, academic integrity, and acceptable use of technology.
6. Student blogs, webpages, and other content creation tools 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 school board policy.
7. Students will 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 an electronic tool used in school that makes them feel uncomfortable or is not respectful, they must report this to a teacher or another trusted staff member and must not respond to the comment. Student conduct that occurs off-campus, but has a connection to the school environment, may form the basis for school discipline. This specifically includes activities that occur off-campus over the internet, on social media, or through other communications.
8. Students accessing electronic tools from home or school, using school equipment, will not download or install any software without permission and will not click on ads or unknown links.
9. Students should be honest, fair, and show integrity in gathering, interpreting, and expressing information for the benefit of others. Always identify sources and test the accuracy of information from all sources.

10. 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. Students will gain permission from students or staff who are the focus of their research, recording, or content creation.
11. Students are accountable to their readers, listeners, and viewers, and to each other. Admit mistakes and correct them promptly. Expose unethical information and practices of others.
12. Users will not repost or resend content that was sent to the user privately without the permission of the person who created the content.
13. Board policies concerning acceptable use of electronic technology include the use of these electronic tools for school activities (Policy 524 - Electronic Technologies Acceptable Use, Policy 622 - Copyright Policy).
14. Failure to follow this code of ethics will result in academic sanctions and/or disciplinary action.

Appendix

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GUIDELINES FOR EMPLOYEE'S PERSONAL USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING

The decision to use online social networking for personal use is at the employee's discretion. The school district does not affirmatively monitor employee use of non-district, online social networking tools if the employee is not using district electronic technologies; however, the district may take appropriate action when it becomes aware of, or suspects, conduct or communication on an online social media site that adversely affects the workplace or violates applicable professional codes of ethics. These guidelines are for employees engaging in social networking for personal use.

1. When using your personal social networking sites, refrain from fraternization with students.
2. Ensure that social networking postings are appropriate for the public.
3. Weigh whether a posting will put your effectiveness as an employee at risk.
4. Use caution with regard to exaggeration, profanity, guesswork, copyrighted materials, legal conclusions, and derogatory comments.
5. Ensure compliance with data privacy laws and district policies. Employees will be held responsible for inappropriate disclosure, whether purposeful or inadvertent.
2. Respect your coworkers and students. Do not discuss students, their families, or coworkers.
3. Student images obtained from your employment with the district should not be included on personal social networking sites.
4. Set privacy settings carefully to ensure that you know who has access to the content on your social networking sites.
5. If the public may consider your statements to be made in your capacity as a district employee, you may want to include "This posting is my own and does not represent the view of Edina Public Schools." An employee in a leadership role in the district, by virtue of their position, must consider whether personal thoughts they publish will be attributed to the district. The use of the aforementioned phrase does not preclude the employee from disciplinary action.
6. Social media identifications, login identifications, and usernames must not contain the district's name or logo without prior written permission from (1) the director of media and technology services or (2) to the director of marketing and communications.

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Appendix IV to Policy 524

GUIDELINES FOR CLASSROOM USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS

Staff members may elect to use social media tools for the purpose of instruction in accordance with Policy 524.

A. District Online Social Media Tools

1. Content and use must adhere to district policies and guidelines.
2. The platform for instruction must indicate that views expressed on the social media site are that of the employee or student, and do not necessarily reflect the views of Edina Public Schools.
3. The staff member must not disclose information on any online social media site that is district property, protected by data privacy laws, or in violation of copyright.

B. Non-District Social Media Tools

1. If a staff member elects to use a non-district social media tool, the staff member must build a separate page in that social media tool from their personal online presence.
2. Content and use must adhere to district policies and guidelines.
3. Content and use must not violate the “terms of service” for the social media tool.
4. The platform for instruction must indicate that views expressed on the social media site are that of the employee or student, and do not necessarily reflect the views of Edina Public Schools.
5. The staff member must not disclose information on any online social media site that is district property, protected by data privacy laws, or in violation of copyright.
6. The platform must not use official district or school logos without the permission of (1) the director of media and technology services or (2) the director of marketing and communications.

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Appendix V to Policy 524

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL OR DISTRICT USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS

Individual schools and departments may choose to establish an official presence on public online social media sites with prior administrative approval. A request must contain the following information:

1. Sponsoring school or department;
2. Proposed social media site or other location;
3. Purpose of site, which cannot be served by the current district website;
4. Plan on how to comply with district policies and record retention requirements;
5. Description and primary use of site;
6. Plan for monitoring site, addressing policy violations, and ensuring current content; and
7. Designee for maintaining the site.

The request should be submitted to the director of marketing and communications. Written approval or denial will be provided to the school or department. If the request is denied, the school or department may request reasons for the denial in writing.

If the request is approved, the school or department must submit to the director of media and technology services, within two weeks of developing the site, the name of the person(s) who will manage the site and the login information for the site. When a presence is established, the sponsoring school or department is responsible for keeping the site current and monitoring the content of the site.

Sites may be linked from the official district website. All sites must comply with web record retention requirements under Policy 719 (Records Retention.).

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Appendix VI to Policy 524

GUIDELINES FOR DISTRICT SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

The school district's social media presence creates an accessible communications outlet, providing district news, facilitating district-related discussion by the community, and guiding viewers to departmental websites at www.edinaschools.org. These guidelines are used in conjunction with Policy 524 (Electronic Technologies Acceptable Use) and all other district policies.

Establishment of Page

1. The district will include on its social media page, in a prominent location, a link to the Edina Public Schools' website, as well as contact information for the district.
2. The district will include language regarding limitation on comments and posts by its users:

Any comments/posts viewed as inappropriate or offensive are subject to removal without notice. These comments/posts include, but are not limited to, commercial solicitations; factually erroneous/libelous information; vulgarity or obscenity; personal attacks of any kind; political support or opposition to any candidate or political measure; offensive comments that target or disparage any group/person; violations of district policy; or discussions not related to the district.

3. The district will include language regarding compliance with data practices and records retentions under Minnesota law:

Social media pages are intended to serve as a mechanism for communication between the public and the district. Any comments submitted to pages, and its list of followers or subscribers, are public records subject to disclosure and retention pursuant to Minnesota law. Public disclosure requests must be directed to the district.

4. The communications department will be responsible for monitoring the district social media pages, including content and comments, to ensure compliance with guidelines for use as posted on the social media pages.

Postings

The district will provide balance in topics shared on its social media pages. District posts will highlight information relevant to and of interest to the community as a whole. Postings may also include prompts or questions relevant to the work and mission of the district that are intended to engage the community in the work of the district. Suggestions for posts should be submitted to the director of marketing and communications.

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Appendix VII to Policy 524

Personal Device Access

Users of personal devices connecting to Edina Schools guest network must abide by Edina Public Schools' Policy 524 (Electronic Technologies Acceptable Use). Though guests may use their personal device and expect some aspects of privacy, use of the school district's network and systems have the following expectations:

1. Use at your own risk. Use of the district network is at the device owner's discretion and therefore the district is not responsible for any loss, damage or adverse effects that may occur to a device while on the district network.
2. Devices need to be registered. All non-district devices connected to the district network need to be registered. In the event of a security incident, personal devices may be disconnected without notice. No support for remediation of security incidents (e.g., malware) will be available, and devices will remain disabled from the district network until fixed.
3. The district network is monitored. For security purposes and pursuant to federal law, the district has implemented monitoring of the district network. Personal devices connected to the district network will also be monitored for access, times, network content, and known security vulnerabilities. This information may be recorded and is subject to audit.
4. The district network is filtered. Known inappropriate and/or malicious sites, and many non-instructional sites, are blocked. Use of the district network and systems requires that owners of personal devices adhere to legal and ethical conduct, and refrain from attempting to access blocked content.
5. No expectation of privacy. Access to the contents of personal devices is governed by local and federal laws. However, while accessing the district network, systems, and buildings, there is not a right to privacy of any content, and as such, may be accessed for inappropriate or illegal activities.
6. The district reserves the right to maintain records of usage. The district may immediately terminate the privilege to use the district network should it become aware that the network is being used for inappropriate or illegal activities. The district reserves the right to take appropriate action in the event inappropriate or illegal activities are discovered on the district systems or network.

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