

ACCEPTABLE USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS RESOURCES

The Board supports access to information technology resources by students and staff as well as the development of staff instructional skills to analyze, evaluate and incorporate electronic resources within the curriculum. With this opportunity for access to computers, computer-related technology, and the Internet comes the need for all users to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. This policy complies with the statutory requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and promotes the safe, ethical, responsible, and legal use of District electronic resources including the Internet to support the effective use of these resources for educational purposes.

The Internet provides access to information resources and people all over the world. However, the Internet also provides access to material that may be considered inappropriate in the context of the school setting. In a global network it is impossible to control all materials. Appropriate use of these resources depends upon the proper conduct of the users who must adhere to strict guidelines. The following guidelines are provided so that users are aware of their responsibilities.

I. Privileges

The School District believes staff and students will behave in a mature and responsible manner when using School District technology. In keeping with this philosophy, a user’s access to these resources will be respected unless we have reason to believe the user is in violation of these policies. The use of School District information technology is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in the cancellation of the privilege. Based upon the established rules and the School District policies and procedures, the supervising staff member(s) will determine what is appropriate use. The School District reserves the right to terminate, suspend, or otherwise limit access to this technology at any time. Such decisions of the District are final.

II. Procedures

The School District will establish procedures that define rules of acceptable behavior for Information Technology and Telecommunications Access. These rules will become part of a contract between the School District, its employees, students and their parents/guardians. All employees must review and sign this agreement before access to technology resources is granted. All students and their parents/guardians will sign an annual contract prior to the student’s use of information technology or telecommunications, which states, in general, that the parties have read and understood the policy and procedures established by the School District.

II. Acceptable Use of Technology

All use must be consistent with the educational and operational policies and procedures of the School District. In addition, all use must be in support of education and research and must remain consistent with the educational objectives of the School District. When using the Internet, the use of other organization’s networks or computing resources is subject to the rules and limitations of those organizations or networks. Transmission of any material in violation of any United States or state statute is strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted or trade secret material, threatening or obscene material, and criminal activity. Use of the network for commercial activities, product solicitations, or political lobbying is also prohibited. Inappropriate use will be reported to the Building Administrator(s).

IV. Responsibilities

The Building Administrator or designee will serve as the building-level coordinator for the use of electronic resources, including the Internet, and will develop building-level procedures necessary to implement this

policy. The procedures will include provision for educators to receive proper training, guidelines for the supervision of students using the system, monitoring the use of the system, and overseeing management of the Student Access Contract process.

School staff members are responsible for assuring that students are instructed and supervised in a manner that is appropriate to the age of the students and circumstances regarding the safe, ethical, legal, and responsible use of electronic resources including the Internet. The Building Administrator or designee will develop and disseminate staff supervision guidelines for their respective schools.

Users should not expect that any files or records of their online activity created on the District's system are private. This includes electronic communications such as e-mail. Users will be fully and regularly informed about the District's supervision and monitoring activities and the limitations on their privacy.

V. System Security

Users of School District information technology agree not to violate, or attempt to violate, system security as it relates to computers, peripherals, or Internet access. This means that users will not intentionally interfere with individual computer or network system performance or attempt to access another person's account, files, or password. Individuals may be denied access to the system based upon security violations of any computer system.

VI. Vandalism

Vandalism will result, as a minimum, in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy the School District technology and/or data of another user. This includes but is not limited to the alteration of system settings or programs, downloading, creation, or distribution of computer viruses or other malicious programs.

VII. Online Fees

Without the express permission of a sponsoring faculty member, a student may not use the School District telecommunications connections to engage in any activity that would result in a fee for such service or access. If students do any of the above, they (or their parents/guardians) are liable for any and all charges.

VIII. Warranties

The School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The School District will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by the District's negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. The School District denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.