

STUDENT APPROPRIATE USE POLICY FOR TECHNOLOGY

The Board supports the use of District technology resources to assist in achieving academic success. Technology resources include hardware, software, data, networks and the Internet. Telecommunication, networked information resources like the Internet, and other new technologies are expanding the ways that we access, communicate, and transfer information. These advancements will alter the way that teachers instruct and students learn. Electronic information research skills are critical to functioning as an educated individual in an information/communication society. The District supports access to the world's information resources, and intends to provide students with appropriate instruction to allow development of skills necessary to access, analyze, and evaluate electronic and other information. The goal of the District is to provide the learning community with the information management tools and skills to fully integrate technology into the learning experience.

Limitations

Technology resources provided by the School District are for educational purposes only. Acceptable uses are those which support the District mission.

The District emphasizes to all users that access to the technology system is a privilege not a right; and the user will be held responsible for his/her actions on the technology system. Inappropriate use of electronic information resources can be a violation of local, state, and federal laws and lead to prosecution under those laws.

Students failing to abide by the Appropriate Use Policy may lose network/computer privileges and experience consequences that may arise from violations of normal school rules, up to and including expulsion.

Property of the District, No Expectation of Privacy

All aspects of the technology system are the District's property. Use of the District's technology system is not guaranteed to be private. The District has access to the entire technology system and maintains the right to access or monitor, consistent with the law, all documents, messages or information created on, with or transmitted over the system, including e-mail and Internet usage, without notice to the users.

The District, consistent with the current law, can review all such documents, messages, or information. All users should expect routine maintenance and monitoring of the District's technology system may lead to the discovery of a violation of this policy or the law.

Responsibilities and No Liability of the District

The District technology system shall be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner, and all users shall abide by the District's policies and procedures.

The District uses a filtering system to limit student access to material that maybe harmful to students, obscene or disruptive to the educational or work environment, and to a lesser degree, high risk activities. The District reserves the right to block sites that do not enhance educational activities or development. No technology measure can block 100% of inappropriate content so the District emphasizes the importance of staff supervision in monitoring student use of technology.

Because access to the Internet provides connections to other computer networks located all over the world, users should understand that the District does not control the content of information available on such networks. The District is not responsible for the accuracy, quality, or appropriateness of the information obtained through the Internet and makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, that the information or services provided by or through the Internet will be error-free.

Anyone using the District's technology system should take note that the District will not be responsible for any mistakes or negligence, liability, copyright infringements or other costs incurred by the person using the District technology system, or the accuracy or quality of information received over the Internet. Copyright infringement includes the duplication of software, a violation of the law and School Board policy.

Use and guidelines of the District Technology System

1. All use of District technology resources, including access to the Internet, must be in support of the educational objectives of the District. All Board policies must be followed when using any technology resource.
2. Use of District technology to access and/or distribute any material that violates U.S. or Wisconsin law, or School Board policy is prohibited.
3. Use of technology to access/use copyrighted materials, pornography, materials harmful to minors, obscene materials and/or similar materials is prohibited.
4. Students may not use the District's technology system in an offensive, harassing, illegal, or defamatory manner. Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, cyber bullying, and other antisocial behaviors are unacceptable in Internet and other network communications. The District prohibits the use of the system to send or receive offensive or improper messages such as derogatory messages about other students or staff members. In addition, the District prohibits the use of the technology system in any way that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others.
5. Use of proxy sites to bypass District web filters is prohibited.
6. All information accessible through the Internet should be assumed to be private property and subject to copyright protection. Internet sources should be credited appropriately, as with the use of any copyrighted material.
7. Students have a responsibility to respect the privacy and property of other users. Students should not intentionally seek information about, obtain copies of, or modify, files, data or passwords of other users. Students will not allow other students to access computers or network resources using their login credentials.
8. For their own safety, students should not reveal personal information, such as addresses, phone numbers, or photographs.
9. Employing the Internet for commercial purposes is prohibited. Students may not use the system to solicit for commercial activities, religious, or political causes, outside organizations or other non-school related matters without prior authorization from the building principal.
10. Students should not expect that files stored on district servers will be private. School and network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and to ensure that the network is being used responsibly.

11. Technology resources must be handled with care. Physical damage or network interruptions resulting from the introduction of viruses or deleting of files are prohibited.
12. No eating or drinking near computers.
13. Students are directed to keep passwords for their own private use and should log-off the network when leaving desktop stations.
14. Certain Web 2.0 services, such as Moodle, wikis, podcasts, websites, RSS feeds and blogs that emphasize online educational collaboration and sharing among users, may be permitted by the District. However, such use must be approved by the Director of Technology or designee, followed by training authorized by the District. Users must comply with these guidelines as well as any other relevant policies and rules during such use. Students may not engage in cyber-bullying activities.
15. Students may not load, save, download, or otherwise install software on technology without approval from the District technology department.
16. Students who create web pages, blogs, profiles or other online postings that result in the student's online posting being accessed and viewed in the school environment may be disciplined if there is a disruption at the school as a result of the online posting. Parents of the students will be contacted by the school's administration and be included in any discipline.

Consequences

Failure to follow the Acceptable Use Guidelines may result in disciplinary actions including loss of technology privileges, suspensions, expulsions or, when applicable, law enforcement involvement.

Parental Opt-Out Provision

The District will provide students access to technology resources, including the standard student access to the Internet, unless the parent/guardian notifies the appropriate building principal in writing that the District should prevent standard access to technology resources for his/her student(s). School officials will send home a written notification of network and computer use guidelines at the beginning of each school year with all other enrollment and registration materials. The notification letter shall state that parents wishing to prohibit standard student Internet use must notify the building principal by the Tuesday of the second week of school. Only those students whose parents file this form, or who make direct contact with the principal, shall be denied standard student Internet access.

Investigations

The District will cooperate fully with local, state and federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to any illegal activities conducted through the District's system. In the event that there is an allegation that a student has violated the District's policy, an investigation will ensue with the possible end result being that technology privileges may be withdrawn from students who do not respect the rights of others and who do not abide by established District policy or other discipline up to and including possible expulsion. Specific disciplinary actions will be tailored to meet the specific concerns related to the violation, as well as local, state and federal law.

Adoption Date: 9/15/10

LEGAL REF.: Wisconsin Statutes Sections:
118.001 (Duties and powers of school boards)

120.12 (School board duties)

120.13 (School board powers)

943.70 (Computer crimes)

947.0125 (Unlawful use of computerized communication systems)

Federal Copyright Law, 17 U.S.C. 101, et. seq.

Children's Internet Protection Act, 20 U.S.C. 6301, et. seq.