

# Computer use regulations

“Understanding what a powerful tool the Internet can be is extremely important for our students.”

– Gene Moore  
Superintendent

## Educational purpose

- Our district system has been established for educational purposes. The term “educational purpose” includes classroom activities, career development and limited high-quality self-discovery activities.
- The district system has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. The district has the right to place reasonable restrictions on the material you access or post through the system. You are also expected to follow the rules set forth in disciplinary code and the law in your use of the district system.
- You may not use the district system for commercial purposes. This means you may not offer, provide or purchase products or services through the district system.
- You may not use the district system for political lobbying. However, you may use the system to communicate with elected representatives.

## Student Internet access

- Access to the World Wide Web and other Internet resources is available to all students unless their parents have requested that their child not be provided access to the Internet by completing a request form. The parent or guardian may withdraw approval at any time. Request forms are available at each schools.
- There is no provisions for students to have e-mail access .

## Unacceptable uses

These uses of the district system are considered unacceptable and are subject to consequences stated in the district discipline code:

### ■ Personal safety

- You will not post personal contact information about yourself or other people. Personal contact information includes your address, telephone, school address, work address, etc.
- You will not agree to meet with someone you have met online.

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- You will promptly disclose to your teacher or other school employee any message you receive that is inappropriate or makes you feel uncomfortable.
- You will not attempt to setup a personal e-mail account, chat site or instant messaging service.

### ■ **Illegal activities**

- You will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to any district system or to any other computer system through the district system or go beyond your authorized access.
  - » You will not assist others in gaining unauthorized access to any district or school computer system.
  - » This includes attempting to log in through another person’s account or access another person’s files.
  - » These actions are illegal, even if only for the purpose of “browsing.”
- You will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the computer system or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means.
- You will not use the district system to engage in illegal act.

### ■ **System security**

- You are responsible for your individual account and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from using your account. Under no conditions should you provide your password (if any) to another person.
- You will immediately notify a teacher or the system administrator if you have identified a possible security problem. Do not look for ways to circumvent security, because this may be construed as an illegal attempt to gain access.
- You will avoid the inadvertent spread of computer viruses by following the district virus protection procedures.

### ■ **Inappropriate language**

- Restrictions against inappropriate language apply to all computer usage in the district and include obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening or disrespectful language.
- You will not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.

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- You will not knowingly or recklessly access sites with false or defamatory information about a person or organization.

### ■ Respect for privacy

- You will not post personal or private information about another person.

### ■ Respecting resource limits

- You will use the system only for educational and career development activities and limited, high-quality, self-discovery activities.
- You will not download large files unless absolutely necessary for a school activity. Access to streaming audio and video is limited to curriculum activities.

### ■ Plagiarism & copyright infringement

- You will not plagiarize works that you find on the Internet. Plagiarism is taking the ideas or writings of others and presenting them as if they were yours.
- You will respect the rights of copyright owners.
  - » Copyright infringement occurs when you inappropriately reproduce a work that is protected by a copyright.
  - » If a work contains language that specifies appropriate use of that work, you should follow the expressed requirements.
  - » If you are unsure whether or not you can use a work, you should request permission from the copyright owner.
  - » Copyright law can be very confusing. If you have questions ask a teacher, media specialist or computer facilitator.

### ■ Inappropriate access to material

- Access to noneducational games is prohibited
- You will not use the district system to access material
  - » that is profane or obscene (pornography),
  - » that advocates illegal acts
  - » or that advocates violence or discrimination towards other people (hate literature).
- If you mistakenly access inappropriate information, you should immediately tell your teacher, media specialist or

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computer facilitator (or disclose this access in the manner specified by your school). This will protect you against a claim that you have intentionally violated this policy.

- The district fully expects you to follow your parents' instructions in regards to additional material they feel is inappropriate.

## Your rights

### ■ Free speech

- Your right to free speech applies also to your use of the district computer system. The district system is considered a limited forum, similar to the school newspaper, and, therefore, the district may restrict your speech for valid educational reasons.

### ■ Search and seizure

- You should expect only limited privacy in the contents of your personal files on the district system. The situation is similar to the rights you have in the privacy of your locker.
- Routine maintenance and monitoring of the district system may lead to the discovery that you have violated this policy, the disciplinary code or the law.
- An individual search will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that you have violated this policy, the disciplinary code or the law. The investigation will be reasonable and related to the suspected violation.

### ■ Due process

- The district will cooperate fully with local, state or federal officials in any investigation related to any illegal activities conducted through the district system.
- In the event of a claim that you have violated the regulation or disciplinary code in your use of the district system, you will be provided an opportunity to be present an explanation before a neutral administrator.
- The violation will be handled in a manner described in the disciplinary code. Additional restrictions may be placed on your use of your Internet account.

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■ **Limitation of liability**

- The district makes no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through the district system will be error-free or without defect.
- The district will not be responsible for any damage you may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service.
- The district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system.
- The district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system.