

Students

**SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES  
(ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)**

The Board of Education will provide access to various computerized information resources through the District's computer system ("DCS " hereafter) consisting of software, hardware, computer networks and electronic communications systems. This may include access to electronic mail, so-called "on-line services" and the "Internet." It may include the opportunity for some students to have independent access to the DCS from their home or other remote locations. All use of the DCS, including independent use off school premises, shall be subject to this policy.

**Access to Inappropriate Content/Material and Use of Personal Technology or Electronic Devices**

This policy is intended to establish general guidelines for the acceptable student use of the DCS and also to give students and parents/guardians notice that student use of the DCS will provide student access to external computer networks not controlled by the School District. The District cannot screen or review all of the available content or materials on these external computer networks. Thus some of the available content or materials on these external networks may be deemed unsuitable for student use or access by parents/guardians.

Despite the existence of District policy, regulations and guidelines, it is virtually impossible to completely prevent access to content or material that may be considered inappropriate for students. Students may have the ability to access such content or material from their home, other locations off school premises and/or with a student's own personal technology or electronic device on school grounds or at school events. Parents and guardians must be willing to establish boundaries and standards for the appropriate and acceptable use of technology and communicate these boundaries and standards to their children. The appropriate/acceptable use standards outlined in this policy apply to student use of technology via the DCS or any other electronic media or communications, including by means of a student's own personal technology or electronic device on school grounds or at school events.

**Standards of Acceptable Use**

Generally, the same standards of acceptable student conduct which apply to any school activity shall apply to use of the DCS. Students who engage in unacceptable use may lose access to the DCS in accordance with applicable due process procedures, and may be subject to further discipline under the District's School Conduct and Discipline Policy and the Student Discipline Code of Conduct. The District reserves the right to pursue legal action against a student who willfully, maliciously or unlawfully damages or destroys property of the District. Further, the District may bring suit in civil court against the parents or guardians of any student who willfully, maliciously or unlawfully damages or destroys District property pursuant to General Obligations Law Section 3-112.

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Student data files and other electronic storage areas will be treated like school lockers. This means that such areas shall be considered to be school property subject to control and inspection. The System Administrator may access all such files and communications to ensure system integrity and that users are complying with the requirements of this policy. Students should NOT expect that information stored on the DCS will be private.

In addition to the general requirements of acceptable student behavior expected under the District's School Conduct and Discipline Policy and the Student Discipline Code of Conduct, the following specific activities shall be prohibited by student users of the DCS:

- a) Using the DCS to obtain, view, download, send, print, display or otherwise gain access to or to transmit materials that are unlawful, obscene, pornographic, abusive;
- b) Use of obscene or vulgar language;
- c) Harassing, insulting or attacking others;
- d) Damaging, disabling or otherwise interfering with the operation of computers, computer systems, software or related equipment through physical action or by electronic means;
- e) Using unauthorized software on the DCS;
- f) Changing, copying, renaming, deleting, reading or otherwise accessing files or software not created by the student without express permission from the System Administrator;
- g) Violating copyright law or employing the DCS for commercial purposes;
- h) Disclosing an individual password to others or using other's passwords.
- i) Using Web 2.0 Communications, such as blogs, wikis, podcasts, and vodcasts, for non-classroom use in accordance with the regulations using the DCS. Students are not allowed to create their own blogs, wikis, podcasts, and vodcasts that are not directly related to classroom instruction and not without the authorization of the teacher.
- j) Using Web 2.0 Communications "unlocked" allowing the general public to post comments.

Regulations and procedures will be established as necessary to implement the terms of this policy.

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**Notification/Authorization**

The District's Acceptable Use Policy and Regulations will be disseminated to parents and students in order to provide notice of the school's requirements, expectations, and students' obligations when accessing the DCS.

Regulations will be established as necessary to implement the terms of this policy.

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #8271 -- Children's Internet Protection Act: Internet Content Filtering/Safety Policy  
*District Code of Conduct on School Property*