

Magnolia ISD

Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

THE USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND RESOURCES

Acceptable Use Policy

Magnolia Independent School District is pleased to offer students access to a network for file sharing, storage, printing, electronic mail and the Internet. Should a parent prefer that a student not have email and Internet access, then the parent should send a request in writing to the campus principal. Any dispute involving Acceptable Use of district resources will be settled at the discretion of district personnel.

What is possible?

Monitored Use

Electronic transmissions and any other use of the electronic communications system by students shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated District staff to ensure appropriate use for educational purposes.

It is all staff member's responsibility to monitor and educate students on acceptable use and appropriate behavior when using electronic communications, including interactions with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms, plus awareness of and response to cyber-bullying.

Access to district approved electronic accounts and the Internet will allow students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, museums, and other repositories of information and to collaborate with other Internet users around the world. The district filters the Internet for objectionable material. However, families should be aware that even though we filter content from the Internet, some material might still contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. While the purposes of the district are to use electronic resources for constructive educational goals, students may find ways to access other materials. We believe the educational benefits, access to informational resources, and opportunities for global collaboration exceed the disadvantages. The district considers Internet access and the use of available technologies as part of the instructional program, just like a textbook.

What is expected?

The MISD Student Code of Conduct applies to electronic interaction, just as it would in any face to face interaction. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. It is expected that users will comply with district standards and the specific rules set forth below. The use of technology is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked if abused. The user is personally responsible for his/her actions in accessing and utilizing electronic resources at school and school sanctioned functions. Students are advised never to access, keep, or send anything that they would not want their parents or teachers to see.

Privacy/Security — Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Students should never access network accounts, network folders and/or files that are not theirs, unless they have been given specific instructions to do so. Students will not intentionally or maliciously circumvent District security measures. Network administrators may review communications and content to maintain system integrity and to insure that students are using the system responsibly.

Storage — Users are expected to remain within allocated disk space for all district owned resources. Students should never download or install any software onto network drives or disks, unless they have written permission from the Network Administrator.

Inappropriate materials or language— Profane, abusive or impolite language should not be used to communicate nor should materials be accessed which are not in line with the rules of school behavior. A good rule to follow is never view, send, or access materials, which you would not want your teachers and parents to see. Should students encounter such material by accident, they should report it their teacher immediately.

General Guidelines

These are guidelines to follow to prevent the loss of network privileges at School.

1. Do not use any electronic device to harm other people or their work.
2. Do not damage electronic equipment or the network in any way.
3. Do not interfere with the operation of the network by downloading or uploading anything that isn't directly related to an academic activity.

4. Ensure Fair Use Guidelines are utilized for Copyright protected material.
5. Do not view, send, or display offensive content.
6. Keep user accounts and passwords secure and private.
7. Do not waste limited resources such as disk space or printing capacity.
8. Do not trespass in another's folders, work, or files.
9. Users of any District Electronic Communication System shall not use it in any way that would be considered: (a) damaging to another's reputation; (b) abusive; (c) obscene; (e) offensive; (f) threatening; (g) harassing; (h) illegal; or (i) contrary to district policy.
10. Users may not use any District Electronic Communication System for any illegal activity, including but not limited to violation of copyright laws.
11. Personal information about students including, but not limited to student names, addresses and phone numbers shall not be transmitted outside the district network, without written permission from the student or his/her parents.
12. Email or any other District Electronic Communication System may not be used for private or commercial offerings of products or services for sale, or to solicit products or services.
13. Notify an adult immediately, if by accident, you receive materials or encounter them on any device that violates the rules of appropriate use.
14. Be prepared to be held accountable for your actions and for the loss of privileges if these rules of appropriate use are violated. Deliberate attempts to violate the rules of appropriate use may be viewed as violations of District policy and, possibly, as criminal activity under applicable state and federal laws. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creating of computer viruses.
15. The use of personally owned devices at school or school sanctioned functions, are subject to the same guidelines as district owned devices.

Student Signature: _____

Student Name: (print) _____

Date: _____

Note Regarding Signatures-

In Magnolia ISD, students will be allowed access to electronic resources/services, and personally owned electronic devices as prescribed by the teacher. The student signature may be required by some teachers. The signature shows that the student has been informed of the Acceptable Use Policy.

The use of electronic resources is an integral part of the learning process just like text books. For this reason, Magnolia ISD grants student access to these services without written parent approval. Parents may submit a request to the principal that their child should have limited or no access to Internet resources. The state of Texas requires that all students reach a minimal skill level. Therefore, it is paramount that students have access. Access to district electronic resources/services and the Internet is monitored by teachers, monitored electronically, and filtered electronically for inappropriate material. Parents must notify the building principal by letter if they do not wish their child to have access.