

INSTRUCTIONS

POLICY -- STUDENT USE OF TECHNOLOGY

BP 6163.4

The County Board intends that technological resources provided by the County Education Office be used in a safe, responsible, and proper manner in support of the instructional program and for the advancement of student learning. All students using these resources shall receive instruction in their proper and appropriate use.

County Education Office staff are expected to review the technological resources and online sites that will be used in the classroom or assigned to students in order to ensure that they are appropriate for the intended purpose and the age of the students.

The County Superintendent or designee shall notify students and parents/guardians about authorized uses of County Education Office technology, user obligations and responsibilities, and consequences for unauthorized use and/or unlawful activities in accordance with County Education Office regulations and Acceptable Use Agreement.

District technology includes, but is not limited to, computers, the district's computer network including servers and wireless computer networking technology (wi-fi), the Internet, email, USB drives, wireless access points (routers), hotspots, tablet computers, iPads, smartphones and smart devices, telephones, cellular telephones, personal digital assistants, pagers, MP3 players, wearable technology, any wireless communication device including emergency radios, and/or future technological innovations, whether accessed on or off site or through district-owned or personally owned equipment or devices.

Before a student is authorized to use the County Education Office technological resources, the student and/or parent/guardian shall sign and return the Acceptable Use Agreement. In that agreement, the student and/or parent/guardian shall agree not to hold the County Education Office or any County Education Office staff responsible for the failure of any technology protection measures, violations of copyright restrictions, or user mistakes or negligence. They shall also agree to indemnify and hold harmless the County Education Office and County Education Office staff for any damages or costs incurred.

The County Education Office reserves the right to monitor student use of technology within the jurisdiction of the district without advance notice or consent. Students shall be informed that their use of district technology, including, but not limited to, computer files, email, text messages, instant messaging, and other electronic communications, is not private and may be accessed by the County Education Office for the purpose of ensuring proper use. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in use of the district technology. Students' personally owned devices shall not be searched except in

cases where there is a reasonable suspicion, based on specific and objective facts, that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law, district policy, or school rules.

Whenever a student is found to have violated Board policy or the County Education Office's Acceptable Use Agreement, the administrator or designee may cancel or limit a student's user privileges or increase supervision of the student's use of the County Education Office's equipment and other technological resources, as appropriate. Inappropriate use also may result in disciplinary action and/or legal action in accordance with law and Board policy.

The County Superintendent or designee, with input from students and appropriate staff, shall regularly review and update this policy, the accompanying Acceptable Use Agreement, and other relevant procedures to enhance the safety and security of students using the County Education Office's technological resources and to help ensure that the County Education Office adapts to changing technologies and circumstances.

Internet Safety

The County Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all County Education Office computers with Internet access have a technology protection measure that protects against Internet access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors and that the operation of such measures is enforced. (20 USC 7131, 47 USC 254, 47 CFR 54.520). A technology protection measure, compliant with the Children's Internet Protection Act, has been in place since 2001.

To reinforce these measures, the County Superintendent or designee shall implement rules and procedures designed to restrict students' access to harmful or inappropriate matter on the Internet and to ensure that students do not engage in unauthorized or unlawful online activities. Staff shall supervise students while they are using online services and may have teacher assistants, student aides, and volunteers assist in this supervision.

Harmful matter includes matter, taken as a whole, which to the average person, applying contemporary statewide standards, appeals to the prurient interest and is matter which depicts or describes, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct and which lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors. (Penal Code 313)

The County Education Office's Acceptable Use Agreement shall establish expectations for appropriate student conduct when using the Internet or other forms of electronic communication, including, but not limited to, prohibitions against:

1. Accessing, posting, submitting, publishing, or displaying harmful or inappropriate matter that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based on their race/ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or political beliefs
2. Intentionally uploading, downloading, or creating computer viruses and/or maliciously attempting to harm or destroy district equipment or materials or manipulate the data of any other user, including so-called "hacking"
3. Distributing personal identification information, including the name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, or other personally identifiable information, of another student, staff member, or other person with the intent to threaten, intimidate, harass, or ridicule that person

The County Superintendent or designee shall provide age-appropriate instruction regarding appropriate online behavior, safe and appropriate behavior on social networking sites, chat rooms, and other Internet services. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited to, the dangers of posting personal identification information online, misrepresentation by online predators, how to report inappropriate or offensive content or threats, behaviors that constitute cyber bullying, and how to respond if subjected to cyber bullying.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

49073.6 Student records; social media
51006 Computer education and resources
51007 Programs to strengthen technological skills
60044 Prohibited instructional materials

PENAL CODE

313 Harmful matter
502 Computer crimes, remedies
632 Eavesdropping on or recording confidential communications
653.2 Electronic communication devices, threats to safety

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 15

6501-6506 Children's Online Privacy Protection Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

7101-7122 Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants
7131 Internet safety

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 47

254 Universal service discounts (E-rate)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 16

312.1-312.12 Children's Online Privacy Protection Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 47

54.520 Internet safety policy and technology protection measures, E-rate discounts

COURT DECISIONS

New Jersey v. T.L.O., (1985) 469 U.S. 325

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Cyberbullying: Policy Considerations for Boards, Policy Brief, July 2007

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

How to Protect Kids' Privacy Online: A Guide for Teachers, December 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

American Library Association: <http://www.ala.org>

California Coalition for Children's Internet Safety: <http://www.cybersafety.ca.gov>

Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use: <http://csriu.org>

Federal Communications Commission: <http://www.fcc.gov>

Federal Trade Commission, Children's Online Privacy Protection:

<http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/privacyinitiatives/childrens.html>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

ADOPTED BY COUNTY BOARD:

March 4, 2010

Revised: February 2, 2012, December 11, 2020