

Policy IJNDB USE OF TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES IN INSTRUCTION

Issued 11/22

In order for the district to be able to continue to make its computer network and internet access available, all users, including students, must take responsibility for appropriate and lawful use of these technologies. Students accessing district-provided internet access are responsible for appropriate online behavior. The same general rules for behavior apply to students' use of district-provided devices. While the district's teachers and other staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise use of network and internet access, they must have student cooperation in exercising and promoting responsible use of this access, and students must be held responsible and accountable for their own conduct.

All use of electronic networks will be consistent with the goals of the district's educational program and should facilitate resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

Accessing Inappropriate Sites

Each district computer or other technology device with internet access will have a filtering device that blocks access to visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, harmful, or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the superintendent or his/her designee.

The district will also monitor the online activities of students, through direct observation and/or technological means, to ensure that students are not accessing such depictions or other material that is inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. The superintendent or his/her designee will enforce the use of such filtering devices.

The district will provide reasonable notice of and at least one (1) public hearing or meeting to address and communicate its internet safety measures. The district's main webpage will also include the district's policy and procedures regarding enforcement of this policy, and they will be available for review at the district office.

Discipline and Reporting

If any user violates this policy or any related procedures, the student's access to the district's internet system and computers or other technology devices will be suspended, revoked, or denied, and he or she may be subject to additional disciplinary action. Actions which violate local, state, or federal law may be referred to local law enforcement.

District and school computer technicians who are working with a computer or other technology device and come across sexually explicit images of children must report this to local law enforcement. The report must include the name and address of the owner or person in possession of the computer.

Online Behavior

The district will educate minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. The superintendent or his/her designee will develop a program to educate students on these issues.

Off-Campus Conduct

Students, parents/legal guardians, teachers, and staff members should be aware that the district may take disciplinary actions for conduct initiated and/or created off-campus involving the inappropriate use of the internet or web-based resources if such conduct poses a threat or substantially interferes with or disrupts the work and discipline of the schools, including discipline for student harassment and bullying.

Warranties/Indemnification

The district makes no warranties of any kind, express or implied, in connection with its provision of access to and use of its computer networks and the internet provided under this policy. The district is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved or transmitted via the internet. The district will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the internet, and any user is fully responsible to the district and will indemnify and hold the district, its trustees, administrators, teachers, and staff harmless from any and all loss, costs, claims, or damages resulting from such user's access to its computer network and the internet, including but not limited to any fees or charges incurred through purchases of goods or services by the user. The user or, if the user is a minor, the user's parent(s)/legal guardian(s) agrees to cooperate with the district in the event the school initiates an investigation of a user's use of his or her access to its computer network and the internet.

Adopted 11/1/22

Legal References:

United States Code of Laws, as amended:

Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000, [47 U.S.C.A. Section 254\(h\)](#).

The Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998, [17 U.S.C.A. Section 512](#) - Limitations on liability relating to material online.

S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

[Section 10-1-205](#) - Computers in public libraries; regulation of Internet access.

[Section 16-3-850](#) - Encountering child pornography while processing film or working on a computer.

[Section 16-15-305](#) - Disseminating, procuring, or promoting obscenity unlawful; definitions; penalties; obscene material designated contraband.

Hampton County School District
