A. INTRODUCTION

This policy regarding acceptable and prohibited uses of technology resources applies, to the extent allowed by law, to all users of the Alleghany County School System's technology resources: students, employees, board members, contractors, guests, and other authorized individuals. It shall be enforced in conjunction with all other technology resources and general policies, including policy 10000 regarding "Technology Resources General Provisions" and other specific policies governing specific user groups.

B. GENERAL PERMISSIBLE USES

Alleghany County School System's technology resources are made available to fulfill the purposes directly related to its educational mission and programs, and in support of users' roles within the Alleghany County School System. Unless otherwise prohibited, personal or incidental use of Alleghany County School System technology resources is permitted if such use conforms to these policies, is reasonably limited and does not interfere or threaten to interfere with Alleghany County School System operational or educational mission.

C. GENERAL PROHIBITED USES

USERS OF ALLEGHANY COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES SHALL NOT INTENTIONALLY OR NEGLIGENTLY ENGAGE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING BEHAVIORS.

1. Unlawful or Generally Prohibited Uses

Users may not use technology resources in violation of any local, state, or federal law, or any other school policy or rule. Appendix 1 of these Technology Resource Policies contains selected state crimes of which users should be generally aware.

2. Harassing, Intimidating, Bullying and Other Similarly Offensive Uses

Users may not use technology resources to engage in conduct involving harassment, intimidation, bullying, discrimination, or similarly offensive or harmful communications as defined and prohibited by Alleghany County School System policies, including Policies 1710, 4021, and 7230. This includes conduct that:

- A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, will have the effect of harming or humiliating a student or damaging the student's property or of placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to his person or damage to his property; or

- Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or group of students in such a way as to cause substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

3. Disruptive or Damaging Uses

Users may not use Alleghany County School System technology resources in any way that threatens their safe, secure, and orderly operation. This includes, but is not limited to, creating, installing, or forwarding computer viruses; consuming inordinate and unauthorized electronic storage space; sending "chain letters," "spam" e-mail, or similar types of communications; or downloading software, media files, or data streams without proper authorization.

4. Unauthorized Technology Access, Endangerment, or Tampering

Users may not obtain, alter, obstruct access to, or in any other way intrude upon or damage Alleghany County School System's or any other user's computer files, programs, or hardware without proper authorization.

5. Jeopardizing or Bypassing Alleghany County School System Security Measures/Use of Proxy Sites

Users shall not, without proper authorization, intentionally disclose or aid in the disclosure of computer passwords, codes, or similar information designed to secure the Alleghany County School System's computer resources and to protect private or confidential information.

Users also shall not intentionally bypass Internet filters or other devices or measures used by the Alleghany County School System to restrict access to Alleghany County Schools, Internet, or other electronic information. In addition users shall not provide information or other means to allow others users to engage in similar bypassing activity. Thus, for example, using or providing information about Internet proxy sites to bypass Alleghany County School System Internet filters is prohibited.

6. Promotional Uses and Advocacy

Users shall not use the Alleghany County School System technology resources for commercial gain or for political, social, religious, or other personal advocacy except as allowed by right under law.

7. Publishing Personal Information on the Internet

No user shall electronically distribute or post personal information about himself/herself or about any other person associated with the Alleghany County School System unless (a) the distribution is legal and properly authorized by school officials, and (b) the distribution does not or is not likely to threaten that person's or any other person's privacy or safety.

8. Downloading or Copying Files or Data

Users, without proper authorization and legal right, may not download programs, files, or other data onto Alleghany County School System computers or other technology equipment. This includes downloading or copying entertainment audio or video files and images, software, or other similar data not directly related to Alleghany County School System objectives.

9. Unauthorized Users

Users of Alleghany County School System technology resources may not permit, without proper authorization, any person to use such resources who is not a member of the Alleghany County School System community or not otherwise authorized to have such access. Users are prohibited from using another individual's computer account or accessing such person's electronic data without prior permission from an authorized official.

10. Plagiarism and Related Acts of Academic Dishonesty

Users shall not use technology resources to plagiarize or otherwise illegally copy or use another person's work or to engage in any other form of academic dishonesty.

11. Copyright and Software Copying

Users shall not use Alleghany County School System technology resources in violation of state or federal copyright laws. Users shall not, without proper authorization, copy Alleghany County School System-owned computer files or software onto any computer. Use of any files, software, or other program or data must be authorized and legally licensed or permitted for such use.

12. Off-campus and Personal Technology Use

The Alleghany County School System reserves the right, to the maximum extent permitted by law, to discipline or take any other action against persons related to their personal electronic technology use (e.g., communications generated via private computers and/or Internet accounts) when such use poses a substantial threat to others' safety or to the operations of the Alleghany County School System. This includes uses that cause or are likely to cause a substantial disruption or material interference with the Alleghany County School System's educational objectives or operations, or that otherwise injure or threaten to injure persons or property within the Alleghany County School System community.

13. Representation of Alleghany County School System's Viewpoints and Positions

Views and position statements may be expressed as representing the position of the Alleghany County School Board, Administration, or staff only with prior approval by the superintendent or his or her designee. Otherwise, no user may use any technology resources to communicate in a way that indicates or implies that the views or positions expressed are established, supported, or endorsed by the Board, its Administrators, or other Alleghany County School System officials.

14. Violating Alleghany County School System's Trademark, Copyright, and Other Intellectual Property Rights

Users may not copy, mimic, sell, or otherwise use Alleghany County School System's trademarks, images, documents, or other intellectual property without proper and legal authorization. The Alleghany County Schools reserves all rights to such intellectual property.

Adopted: September 8, 2008