

USE OF THE INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Internet and electronic communications (e-mail, chat rooms and other forms of electronic communication), have vast potential to support instruction and learning. The Superintendent believes they should be used in schools as a learning resource to educate, communicate and inform. Accordingly, the District provides student and staff access to the Internet and electronic communications as a means to offer a wide variety of educational resources. While many opportunities offered by the Internet and electronic communications are exciting and appropriate, others are unsuitable for school use. Consequently, use of the computer, the Internet, and electronic communications shall be for educational purposes only.

The Internet offers an opportunity to:

1. Participate in distance learning activities
2. Ask questions of and consult with experts
3. Communicate with other students and individuals
4. Locate material to meet their educational and personal information needs

The Internet is a fluid environment in which information available to student is constantly changing. The Superintendent acknowledges that it is impossible to predict with certainty what information students might locate. The electronic information available does not imply endorsement by the District of the content, nor does the District make any guarantee as to the accuracy of information received on the Internet.

The District will make reasonable efforts to see that students use this resource in a responsible manner in accordance with this policy and all regulations and procedures enacted pursuant to this policy. To this end, the District shall provide content filtering applications that control student access to inappropriate material, in accordance with applicable law. Administrators, teachers, and staff have a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the intellectual skills needed to evaluate and choose among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use information to meet their educational goals.

The superintendent or his/her designee will develop regulations and procedures for student and staff use of electronic information resources through the Internet. Violations of these regulations and procedures may result in loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

Use of this education resource demands personal responsibility and an understanding of the acceptable use procedures for the Internet as set forth in the regulations. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using school computers. Student and staff use of the Internet and electronic communications is a privilege, not a right. Failure to follow the acceptable use procedures may result in loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

The District's network administrators may review student and staff files and communications to maintain system integrity and to ensure that users are using the system appropriately and responsibly. Students and staff shall have no expectation of privacy in any information stored on the District's servers, or in their use of school computers.

Approved: August 12, 1997

Revised: April 27, 2004

Revised: February 10, 2014

LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq. (Elementary and Secondary Education Act)
47 U.S.C. 231 (Child Online Protection Act of 1998)
47 U.S.C. 254(h) (Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000)
C.R.S. 22-87-101 et seq. (Children's Internet Protection Act)

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