

# **Fayette County ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY 2023-2024**

The Fayette County School System Acceptable Use Policy applies to all employees and students of the Fayette County School System. This policy covers all use of technology resources including computer hardware, software, and network resources. It also includes the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for using technology as well as policies regarding Bringing Your Own Device (BYOD) to connect to the network and Internet. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in termination of those privileges.

**The technology resources that are provided by the Fayette County School System are available to enhance teaching and learning, facilitate professional development, and support school business systems.**

**Internet Safety Policy:** It is the policy of the Fayette County School System to:

- prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications
- prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity
- prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use or dissemination of personal identification information of minors. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records
- comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)]

**Definitions:**

- AUP: Acceptable Use Policy refers to the acceptable use of the school network, technology resources, and Internet connection.
- CIPA: Children's Internet Protection Act
- MINOR: The term "minor" refers to any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years.
- Other definitions are defined by CIP

**Access to Inappropriate Material:** To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "internet filters") shall be used to block or filter the Internet or other forms of electronic communications. Specifically, as required by CIPA, this must protect against access by adults and protect students and minors against visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, and/or with respect to use of computers with Internet access by students and minors, harmful to students and minors. Depictions that are deemed obscene, pornographic, and harmful to students and minors shall be defined by the Fayette County Board of Education when applicable. The technology protection measure may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Currently, Fayette County School District has a CIPA compliant content filtering solution in place. The Fayette County Board of Education or representative is responsible for reviewing and maintaining this technology protection measure. At any time the protection measure may be replaced if it is not functioning properly or is determined not to protect our students and minors in a sufficient manner.

**Unacceptable uses of the Network** - Technology Resources, the Network, the Internet, and student-owned devices may not be used for:

- Disruption
- Cheating
- Violation of a person's privacy
- Actions compromising personal and/or school safety
- Cyber Bullying - Posting malicious remarks electronically on the Web or by E-Mail
- Other illegal and/or unethical activities
- Transmitting obscene, abusive or inappropriate language or images

- Violation of the law
- Altering system software
- Placing unauthorized information, computer viruses, or harmful programs on the computer or network
- Sharing personal passwords or using someone else's password
- Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking"
- Unauthorized access to E-Mail
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors
- Any other conduct that violates another discipline code as outlined in the student code of conduct

**Portable electronic devices are prohibited from being used in classrooms where the teacher does not give explicit permission to use the device.**

Internet Safety Education: Staff members shall provide instruction for their students regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety/security. The Fayette County School District will use resources from Common Sense Education (Grades K-12) to teach internet safety/security. Verification of completion of curriculum shall be documented by classroom teachers. Upon completion the verification form shall be kept in the Technology Department.

**Warranties:** The Fayette County School System does not warrant computer or network functionality or accuracy of information found on the Internet. In addition, the District does not warrant against lost or corrupted data that may be accessed or stored on District computers, servers, or student-owned devices. On occasion, an inappropriate website may get through the Internet filter. Students should bring the website in question to the attention of a staff member who shall contact the District Technology Coordinator so that these websites can be added to the blocked site list.

**Photographs of students on the Fayette County Schools Websites:** Teachers and students may create the web pages that are published on our web site which is located at [www.fayette.k12.al.us](http://www.fayette.k12.al.us) Occasionally, photographs of students will appear on some of those pages. The full name of the student should not appear on these pages.

**Ownership of Student Produced Computer Materials:** Rights of ownership to any computer material, instructional material or devices shall be exclusive property of the District when any such item is produced by a student utilizing district supplies and/or equipment as a dominant resource in producing materials.

**Consequences and Disciplinary Action:** If a student is suspected of misuse of his/her device, authorities may confiscate and search the mobile device and take disciplinary action against the student.

**Parent and Student Signature Forms:** Students and parents are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy before students are permitted access to the technology resources of the District. By signing the form, they agree to the terms of the Internet Safety Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy.

## FAYETTE COUNTY NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Fayette County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Rene P. Nichols-P.O. Box 686-Fayette, AL 35555- 205-932-8071-[rnichols@fayette.k12.al.us](mailto:rnichols@fayette.k12.al.us) For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

**Fayette County School District  
Technology User Agreement and Release Form  
2023-2024**

**For Parents/Guardians and Students:**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name)

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School Year: 2023-2024

In consideration for the privileges of using the District and/or Network resources, including Internet, I agree to abide by the Internet Safety Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy which include, but are not limited to, the information contained on Pages 1 and 2 of this form.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

As the student's parent or legal guardian, I agree to the terms of this policy, and I hereby release the District, Network, their operators, and administration for any and all claims, fees, expenses or damages incurred as a result of my child's misuse of the Network resources or Internet.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to allow photographs of my child to appear on the school's web site in accordance with the District policy outlined on page 2.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**For Fayette County School System Employees:**

Employee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print name)

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_ School Year: 2023-2024

In consideration for the privileges of using the District and/or Network resources, including Internet, I agree to abide by the Internet Safety Policy and the Acceptable Use Policy which include, but are not limited to, the information contained on Pages 1 and 2 of this form.

Employee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_