

Board Policy IFBGA: Electronic Communications

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 06/11/2007 | Last Reviewed Date: 07/13/2020

Henry County Schools (HCS) recognizes the importance of electronic communication tools in facilitating instruction, conducting school business, and engaging with employees, students, and stakeholders. This policy governs the use of HCS electronic resources at HCS sites to include but is not limited to Internet, chat rooms, electronic mail, data, online resources, online services, portable media, network information, licensed software, telecommunication resources, HCS Intranet and all other school system electronic messaging systems and data systems. The use of electronic communications must align with the district's mission, goals, and policies while complying with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA") and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA").

To safeguard students, staff, and district resources, Henry County Schools implements a multi-layered security approach, including firewalls, content filtering, and cybersecurity measures to protect against unauthorized access, inappropriate content deemed harmful to minors, and cyber threats.

The district monitors electronic communications and online activities of staff and students as required by law. Employees and students are expected to use electronic communication tools in a professional, ethical, and responsible manner in accordance with district policies and applicable laws. Violations of the electronic communications policy may cause an employee's or student's access privileges to be revoked, School Board disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken, up to and including termination of employment. HCS employees will be held responsible for attorney fees.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent or their designee to establish regulations for implementing procedures to ensure the responsible use of electronic communications in the District.