

Title: Appropriate Use of Internet and Online Learning Platforms by Students

Internet access and the use of online platforms is a vital part of the Council Bluffs Community School District's instructional program. Access to the Internet, including emerging technologies accessed through the internet, will be available to all students. The District will make good-faith efforts to promote the safe, ethical, responsible, and legal use of the Internet, support the effective use of the Internet for educational purposes, protect students against potential dangers in their use of the Internet, and ensure accountability compliance with all legal requirements, including the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

All Students will be able to access the District-provided Internet connection. Student accounts and passwords for District systems will be issued to students. Student account information will remain private. Upon request, parents may have access to their student's account credentials.

Student use of the District's Internet connection will be governed by this policy, related District and school regulations, and the student code of conduct. In the event of an allegation that a student has violated the Appropriate Use Guidelines detailed in 617.1, the student may be subject to the Student Code of Conduct, Policy 512.

Users have no privacy expectations in the contents of their personal files and records of their online activity while connected to the Internet via the District's data network.

The District will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation involving or relating to any unlawful activities conducted while connected to the Internet via the District's data network.

The District will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the District's data network or Internet connection. Users or parents of users will indemnify and hold the District harmless from any losses sustained as the result of misuse of the District's data network and Internet connection by that user.

Parents/guardians may request in writing that their child's connection to the Internet be

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restricted. In addition, school administrators can restrict access to internet resources for violations of this policy and or the student handbook. Some educational content, resources, and assessments are only available via the District's data network and Internet connection. Students who are restricted will still use those educational resources deemed essential by the District. Parents or guardians who wish to further restrict access to District-required online resources should contact the Chief Technology Officer.

The District has implemented a "technology protection measure", generally referred to as an Internet filter or content filter, to block access to visual depictions deemed as obscene, pornographic, or harmful to minors. Digital citizenship standards that include safe, ethical, and responsible use of the Internet will be defined and taught within core curriculum.

Online Learning Platforms

The use of online platforms to host remote interaction between students and employees and to facilitate learning is encouraged in the District.

While student and employee instruction and communication using virtual and online platforms provides a wide array of learning opportunities, it is imperative that employees and students recognize that the use of such platforms is a privilege. Training related to the use of online learning platforms will be provided to employees and students.

The District shall carefully safeguard the right of students and employees to learn and teach in a respectful environment regardless of the method. All instruction and communication through online learning platforms should be appropriate to the age and ability of the participants. Students and employees should be aware that online platforms may be monitored by the District. Verbal and written communication occurring on these platforms may be recorded and stored by the District in accordance with applicable laws.

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Any verbal or written communication on these platforms deemed to be inappropriate will subject the student and/or employee to the same disciplinary measures that would exist if the interaction took place through traditional in-person learning. Students and employees who have concerns about the proper use of these platforms are encouraged to speak with their teachers or building administrator.

Cross References:

403, 425, 511, 520, 520.1, 604, 615, 616, 616.1;
909, Code of Conduct

Legal References:

Iowa Code Chapter 279.8, Children's
Internet Protection Act, 47U.S.C, Chapter
254(h), (1), Iowa Code 715C

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