Coahoma County School District

Acceptable Use Policy for Technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI)

1. Purpose and Scope

The Coahoma County School District provides students and staff members access to computers, mobile devices, local networks, cloud-based infrastructure, and the Internet. These electronic resources are provided to enable users to explore digital libraries, access educational databases, collaborate globally, and develop modern critical thinking and data literacy skills.

Access to district technology is a **privilege, not a right**. All users—including district employees, students, administrators, and authorized educational partners—are subject to this policy and are expected to understand its provisions. General rules for ethical behavior, digital citizenship, and respectful communication apply to the virtual environment just as they do during any physical school activity.

2. District Commitments and Privacy Guardrails

To maintain an environment that promotes safe, ethical, and responsible technological conduct, the District enforces the following operational standards:

- **Regulatory Compliance:** The District enforces strict network filtering and monitoring tools to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Web browsing and application usage are monitored, and logs are retained to maintain regulatory compliance.
- **Student Data Privacy:** Digital and web publications will strictly abide by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). The District will not disclose personally identifiable information (PII) about students on public websites or external platforms. This includes full names, home or email addresses, telephone numbers, and social security numbers.
- **Legal Cooperation:** The District will fully cooperate with local, state, or federal law enforcement officials in any legal investigation concerning illicit or unauthorized activities conducted through a user's district-managed account.
- **Safety & Support:** The District actively encourages users to immediately report any inappropriate online interactions, harassment, or cyberbullying. The District provides continuous digital literacy, cybersecurity, and cyberbullying awareness training to staff and students.

3. General Technology and Network Usage Rules

- **Academic Alignment:** Users must utilize district computer resources, networks, and Internet access exclusively for educational and professional purposes. Exceptions for independent staff research require prior administrative approval.
- **Software and Configurations:** Users are prohibited from installing unapproved software, applications, browser utilities, or plugins without explicit authorization from the Technology Department.
- **Security Bypass:** Users shall not bypass, alter, or attempt to circumvent network security

controls, firewalls, content filters, or monitoring syst.
- **Hardware Modifications:** Users must not insert, attach, or execute unauthorized external media, storage drives, or unvetted peripheral devices on district-owned hardware.
- **Credential Safety:** Under no conditions shall a user share their district password with another person or utilize another individual's credentials. Network and system infrastructure details must never be disclosed to unauthorized parties.

4. Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidelines

The District recognizes the educational value of generative AI tools for learning, brainstorming, and critical analysis. However, the integration of AI demands strict adherence to data security and academic integrity:

- **Data Privacy Restrictions:** Users must never input confidential student data, personnel records, or personally identifiable information (PII) into any public or external AI model. This prevents intellectual property leaks and protects privacy under FERPA guidelines.
- **Academic Integrity:** Submitting AI-generated content (such as text, code, or artwork) as original, unassisted human work constitutes academic misconduct. Students must strictly follow teacher directives regarding when AI tools are permitted for a specific assignment.
- **Transparency and Disclosure:** If an assignment incorporates generative AI, the user must explicitly disclose and cite the assistance or tool utilized according to the district's approved citation standards.
- **Fact-Checking and Accuracy:** Users are responsible for evaluating and validating all AI-generated outputs before finalizing work. Because AI data sets are prone to hallucinations, biases, or historical inaccuracies, content must be cross-referenced with authoritative resources.
- **Prohibited AI Exploits:** The use of generative tools to create synthetic media, manipulate images, or produce "deepfakes" for the purpose of bullying, impersonation, defamation, or harassment is strictly forbidden.

5. Unacceptable Content and Behavior

Users shall not access, download, download, transmit, submit, publish, display, or print digital materials that involve:

- **Illegal Activity:** Any material that violates local, state, or federal laws, or coordinates a conspiracy to commit a crime.
- **Intellectual Property Theft:** Copyrighted software, media, or proprietary data unless the user possesses explicit written permission or a valid legal license.
- **Inappropriate Material:** Threatening, harassing, obscene, defamatory, abusive, or pornographic text and imagery.
- **Violence and Weapons:** Material that promotes physical violence, self-harm, or the destruction of property via explosive devices, firearms, incendiary weapons, or alternative hazards.
- **Discrimination:** Language or visual content that conducts personal attacks or promotes prejudicial and discriminatory hostility against individuals or groups.

6. Warranties and Indemnification

The Coahoma County School District disclaims any responsibility for the quality or accuracy of

information accessed on the Internet. The District makes no explicit or implied warranties regarding its network infrastructure or continuous uptime. The District shall not be held liable for any damages, monetary losses, identity theft, or data loss suffered by a user directly or indirectly resulting from network use. Use of district accounts and devices constitutes a binding agreement to abide by this policy.

7. Consequences of Non-Compliance

Failure to comply with the terms of this Acceptable Use Policy will result in immediate disciplinary intervention. Depending on the severity of the violation, consequences may include:

1. Revocation or permanent denial of technology and network privileges.
2. Financial restitution for property or network damage.
3. School disciplinary actions, including detention, suspension, or formal expulsion.
4. Referral to law enforcement authorities, potentially resulting in civil or criminal prosecution.