

Policy 605.06: Internet and Digital Device - Appropriate Use by Students

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 11/27/2023 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 11/27/2023

Because technology is a vital part of the school district curriculum, access to the Internet will be made available to employees and students on their district-issued digital devices. Individual electronic mail addresses and accounts will also be issued to all employees and students. Our goal in providing these resources is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Appropriate and equitable use of the Internet will allow employees and students to access resources unavailable through traditional means. Access to the Internet and digital devices is a privilege, not a right.

The Internet can provide a vast collection of educational resources for students and employees. It is a global network which makes it impossible to control all available information. Because information appears, disappears, and changes constantly; it is not possible to predict or control what students may locate. The school district makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of information received on the Internet.

Although students will typically be under teacher supervision while on the district network, it is not possible to constantly monitor individual students and what they are accessing on the network. Some students might encounter information which may not be of educational value. Students' Internet activities will be monitored by the school district to ensure students are not accessing inappropriate sites that have visual depictions that include obscenity, child pornography, or are harmful to minors. Records of student Internet activity on district-issued digital devices are confidential records treated like other student records. The school district will use technology protection measures to protect students from inappropriate access, including sites that include obscenity, child pornography, or are harmful to minors.

The school district will monitor any and all aspects of its digital devices, network infrastructure, and access to the internet. This includes, but is not limited to, monitoring sites students visit on the Internet, examining and copying files, and reviewing and copying electronic messages. The district may limit, suspend, or revoke student access to digital devices and electronic resources at any time.

The school district will educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting on social networking sites and chat rooms. Students will also be educated on cyberbullying, including awareness and response. Employees will provide age appropriate training for students who use the Internet and reinforce expectations for appropriate use of digital devices. The training provided will be designed to promote the school district's commitment to:

- The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the accompanying regulations and relevant students' handbooks;
- Student safety;
- Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act

The school district does not and should not take the place of parents educating their children at home about the importance of the Internet and appropriate online safety measures. Parents will be required to grant permission to allow their students to access the Internet during the annual online registration process.

In compliance with federal law, this policy will be maintained at least five years beyond the termination of funding under the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) or E-rate.
