STUDENT USE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Superintendent or designee shall oversee the maintenance of each school’s technological resources and may establish guidelines and limits on their use. All students using these resources shall receive instruction in their proper and appropriate use.

At the beginning of each school year, parents/guardians shall receive a copy of the district’s policy regarding access by students to the Internet. (Education Code 48980)

Internet Services: User Obligations and Responsibilities

Students are authorized to use district equipment to access the Internet or online services in accordance with user obligations and responsibilities specified below and in accordance with Board of Education policy and the district's Acceptable Use Agreement.

1. Students shall use the district's system responsibly and primarily for educational purposes.

2. Students are responsible for the use of their individual account(s) and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use their account. Students should never share their password with others unless directed to by district or site administrators.

3. Students shall not access, post on internal or external sites, submit, publish or display harmful or inappropriate matter that is threatening, obscene, disruptive or sexually explicit, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based on their race/ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion or political beliefs.

   Harmful matter includes matter, taken as a whole, which to the average person, applying contemporary statewide standards, appeals to the prurient interest and is matter which depicts or describes in a patently offensive way sexual conduct and which lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors. (Penal Code 313)

   If a student inadvertently accesses such information, they should immediately disclose the inadvertent access to a teacher or administrator. This will protect users against an allegation that they have intentionally violated the Acceptable Use Policy.

4. Students shall not disclose, use or disseminate personal identification information about themselves or others when using electronic mail, chat rooms, or other forms of direct electronic communication. Students are also cautioned not to disclose such information by other means to individuals located through the Internet without the permission of their parents/guardians.

   ◦ Personal information includes the student's name, address, telephone number, Social Security number, or other individually identifiable information.
5. Students shall not use the system to encourage the use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco, nor shall they promote unethical practices or any activity prohibited by law or Board policy.

6. Students shall not use the system to engage in commercial or other for-profit activities.

7. Students shall not use the system to threaten, intimidate, harass, or ridicule other students or staff.
   a. Students shall promptly disclose to their teacher or other school employee any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.

8. Copyrighted material shall be posted online only in accordance with applicable copyright laws. Any materials utilized for research projects should be given proper credit as with any other printed source of information. (Refer to CUSD Board Policy #6162.6 for complete policy regarding use of copyrighted material.)

9. Students shall not intentionally upload, download or create computer viruses and/or maliciously attempt to harm or destroy district equipment or materials or manipulate the data of any other user, including so-called "hacking."

10. Students shall not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the district system or to any other computer system through the district system, or go beyond their authorized access. This includes attempting to log in through another person's account or access another person's files. These actions are illegal, even if only for the purposes of "browsing."

11. Students shall report any security problem or misuse of the services to the teacher or principal.

Limitation of Liability

The district utilizes various technology protection measures to filter and/or block access to inappropriate or harmful material. Unlike in the past when educators and community members had the opportunity to review and screen materials to assess their appropriateness, because the internet serves as a gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, the district may not be able to evaluate and approve or limit access to every available resource. Please note that even though the school district may use technical means to limit student internet access, these limits do not provide a foolproof means for enforcing the provisions of this acceptable use policy.

The district reserves the right to monitor any online communications for improper use. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account, may be monitored or read by district officials to ensure proper use of the system.
The principal or designee shall make all decisions regarding whether or not a student has violated Board policy or the district's acceptable use agreement. The decision of the principal or designee shall be final.

Inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of the student's user privileges, disciplinary action and/or legal action in accordance with law and Board policy.

The student and their parent/guardian shall agree to not hold the district responsible and shall agree to indemnify and hold harmless the district and all district personnel for the failure of any technology protection measures, violations of copyright restrictions, users’ mistakes or negligence, or any costs incurred by users.