

Policy Title

USE OF THE INTERNET AND DIGITAL DEVICES
BY STUDENTS/ACCEPTABLE USE

Code 602.26

Electronic information resources are available to qualifying students in the Dallas-Center-Grimes School District. These resources include access to computers, the Internet, networks systems and other network files or accounts of the District. Our goal in providing electronic information resources to students is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Appropriate and equitable use of this network of information libraries is a privilege that will allow students to access a wide variety of resources. Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies as well as regional and state networks. The District makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of information received on the Internet.

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

Users who create, access, publish or transmit, or attempt to create, access, publish or transmit, inappropriate or illegal material or Internet sites, or who otherwise violate this policy, will be subject to discipline; which may include the possibility of suspension or expulsion from school and/or referral to legal authorities. The District may limit, suspend or revoke student access to electronic resources at any time. Fines or other charges may also be imposed as a result of loss or damage to the District's electronic information resources caused by a student. Students are required to provide full cooperation to District administration and staff, or other agencies, associated with any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the District's electronic information resources. The smooth operation of the network is dependent upon the proper conduct of the users who must adhere to strict guidelines, rules and regulations. Such are provided so that student users are aware of the responsibilities they are about to accept. In general, their responsibilities necessitate legal, acceptable, ethical, and appropriate utilization of the electronic network resources.

The use of the District's computers, network, and Internet access shall be for educational purposes only. The District may monitor any and all aspects of its computers, network, Internet access, and/or other technology resources without prior notice, including, but not limited to, monitoring sites students visit on the Internet, examining and copying computer files, and reviewing and copying e-mail. The District's technology resources are the property of the District and no student shall have any expectation of privacy in any materials therein.

Acceptable Use:

The District will monitor the online activities of students to the extent practical, and will educate students about appropriate online behavior.

The training provided will be designed to promote the District's commitment to:

- The standards and acceptable use of Internet services
- Age appropriate training for students who use the Internet.
- Student safety with regard to:
 - safety on the Internet;
 - appropriate behavior while on online,
 - social networking Web sites
 - chat rooms
 - cyberbullying awareness and response
 - e-mail protocol
- Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act

This District education does not and should not take the place of parents educating their children at home about the importance of Internet and other online appropriate use and safety measures.

Electronic mail addresses may be issued to students for a specific period of time for education use. Students will use equipment and electronic resources in an appropriate and respectful manner so that no vandalism occurs.

Students will be instructed on digital citizenship skills. Students will be allowed access to the Internet and digital devices unless the student’s parent or guardian provides a written notification prohibiting that student’s access.

Unacceptable Network/Computer Use:

Creation, transmission or intentional receipt of any inappropriate material or material in violation of law or District policy is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material; threatening material; obscene, vulgar, or lewd material; defamatory material; material protected by trade secrets; activities for private use or profit; use of product advertisement or political lobbying, including lobbying for student body office; the design or detailed information pertaining to explosive devices, criminal activities or terrorist acts; harassment or discrimination; cheating; sexism or sexual harassment; pornography; gambling; illegal solicitation; racism; and profane, vulgar or similarly inappropriate language. Illegal or inappropriate activities, including hacking, piracy, datajacking, games, or use of the network in any way that would disrupt network use by others, or activities of any kind that do not conform to the rules, regulations and policies of the District, are forbidden. No student may download or install or modify any software or programs without permission from the District.

It is advised that students not reveal personal information, such as: home address, phone numbers, password, credit card numbers or social security number, etc.; this also applies to others’ personal information or that of organizations. Students shall not share user account information with other persons or attempt to use any other person’s account.

In accordance with Iowa law, the District’s policy against harassment and bullying applies to electronic communications such as e-mail messages, internet-based communications, and electronic messaging. Students shall not engage in harassing or bullying behavior via the Computer.

If a user encounters potentially inappropriate information, the user shall immediately terminate contact with such information and notify appropriate school personnel of the contact with inappropriate information.

Service Disclaimer: The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. District will not be responsible for any damages the student may suffer while on this system. These damages may include, but are not limited to: loss of data as a result of delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by any reason, including by the system or by student error or omission. Use of any information obtained via the information system is at the student's own risk. District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through electronic information resources. Any risk, damages, and/or charges resulting from a student's use of the District's computers, network, and/or Internet access is assumed by and is the responsibility of the student.

Definitions:

Educational Purpose: Uses that are approved and supported by the District curriculum.

Privilege: Access to the Internet and digital devices and equipment is a privilege, not a right. Educationally inappropriate use of these resources may result in disciplinary action (including the possibility of suspension or expulsion), and/or referral to legal authorities. The District may limit, suspend or revoke student access to electronic resources at any time.

Vandalism: Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy property (including equipment or data files) of the user, another user or of any other agencies or networks or digital devices that are connected to the Network or the Internet system. Vandalism also includes, but is not limited to: intentionally abusive overloading of data on the server, or the malicious uploading, downloading or creation of computer viruses or worms. Any engagement in network or digital devices vandalism constitutes unacceptable use and will subject the student to appropriate disciplinary action.

Copyright: Unauthorized duplication of software is a violation of the law and Board policy. Fair use allows an individual to reproduce copyrighted work for purposes such as teaching or research. Reproduction beyond fair use needs the permission of the copyright holder. Violation of copyright law could lead to civil liability with excessive penalties. Any violation is the liability of the student and not the District. Please refer to Board policy and administrative regulations 603.16 and 603.16R.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principals and technology coordinator, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Approved: October 1995

Reviewed: July 2012

Revised: July 2012

In an effort to avoid disruptions to the educational process of the Dallas Center-Grimes School, the use of electronic communication devices such as pagers, cellular phones or any similar electronic communication devices shall be determined at the building level, following the administrative regulation guidelines.

To protect privacy, electronic communication devices such cellular phones or any similar electronic communication devices shall not be used in restrooms, locker rooms, dressing rooms, or other similar situations or locations at any time.

The medical or emergency use of an electronic communication device by a student may be approved by the building principal after a meeting with parent(s) or guardian and the receipt of a letter of necessity from a doctor. The authorization to carry an electronic communication device shall be in writing from the principal and shall be carried at all times the student has an electronic communication device that is turned on or used during the school day.

This policy does not apply to members of a fire department, medical unit, law enforcement department or others that are not students and his/her employment require the electronic communication device.

At no time are students or visitors authorized to video capture, photograph or audio record others in the school building, on school property, in school vehicles, or at school activities (unless recording a public performance, such as a game, honor assembly, concert, contest, etc.) without the consent of a teacher, coach, or school administrator.

The principal may, on a case-by-case basis, authorize the use of electronic communication devices when warranted by unusual circumstances. Such authorization shall be in writing and shall be carried at all times the student has the electronic communication device turned on or used during the school day.

The District will not be responsible for financial charges related to student Handheld Technology Devices at any time, in include during times of confiscation.

The District will not be responsible for loss, damage, destruction or theft of any electronic device brought to school.

Legal Reference:

Cross Reference:

Approved: April 1995

Reviewed: July 2012

Revised: July 2012

Policy Title USE AND/OR POSSESSION OF ELECTRONIC
COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Code 502.14R

As the educational use of technology changes, the use of electronic communication devices must also change.

The use of personal cell phones in the classroom will be restricted to educational purposes with the permission and direction of the classroom teacher. Any charges incurred due to the use of personal cell phones at school will be the responsibility of the student, including times of confiscation.

In extreme or unusual circumstances or for use by emergency personnel, the principal may allow a cell phone to be on and used in the classroom. The student will carry the principal's permission with him/her at all times.

At the discretion of the principal, cell phones may be used during non-instructional times. These times will be determined and communicated to students. The impact of the use of cell phones will be monitored by the administration on a regular basis to ensure it is not negatively affecting education or the school environment.

Definition in this policy:

cell phones - cell phones, smart phones and similar electronic communication devices

Educational Purpose: Uses that are approved and supported by the District curriculum.

Reviewed: June 2012