

Missoula County Public Schools

Students 3612

#### District Provided Access to Electronic Information Services and Networks

Internet access and interconnected computer systems are available to the District's students and staff. Electronic networks, including the Internet, are essential to the District's instructional program for promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

#### Curriculum

The use of the District's electronic networks shall be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the District as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students.

The District will establish a program to educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. Cyberbullying, sometimes referred to as Internet bullying or electronic bullying, is being cruel to others by sending or posting harmful material or engaging in other forms of social cruelty using the Internet or other digital technologies, such as emails, instant messaging, text messages, web pages, blogs, or chat rooms.

#### Appropriate Uses

Educational Purposes: All use of the District's electronic network must be

- A. In support of education and/or research in furtherance of the District's stated educational goals, or
- B. For a legitimate school and/or administrative business purpose.

#### Prohibited Uses of Network.

Unacceptable uses include but are not limited to

- A. Uses that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law.
- B. Uses that knowingly cause harm to others or damage to their property.
- C. Uses that knowingly jeopardize the security of student access and of the computer network or other networks on the Internet.
- D. Use as a forum for promoting personal ideologies or political viewpoints.
- E. Use for personal financial gain.

#### Internet Safety

District Internet access shall have a filtering device designed to block entry to media that are (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. All users' online activities are monitored through direct observation and/or technological means, to ensure that users are accessing material that is appropriate and consistent with the district's educational goals. Students who choose to connect to the District network should consider his/her personal devices subject to the same level of monitoring and access as any district-owned technology device.

#### Confidentiality of Student Information

Personally identifiable information concerning students may not be disclosed or used in any way on the Internet or made public on the District internal network without the permission of a parent or guardian or, if the student is 18 or over, the permission of the student himself/herself. A supervising teacher or administrator may authorize the release of directory information, as defined by law, for internal administrative purposes or approved educational projects and activities.

#### Network/Internet Access Conduct Agreements

Access to the District's computer system and/or Internet service is an integral part of the educational process. Temporary access may be granted each student at the time of building enrollment. Each student and his/her parent(s)/legal guardian(s) will be required to sign and return to the school an Internet Access Conduct Agreement within 5 school days to assure

continued access to the District's computer system and/or Internet Service. The District will provide wireless Network access to all personal computing devices and personal mobile electronic devices within the confines of District security protocols and its available bandwidth resources.

#### Warranties/Indemnification

The District makes no warranties of any kind, express or implied, in connection with its provision of access to and use of its computer network, and the Internet provided under this policy. While the District attempts to protect information on its computer network, it is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved or transmitted via the Internet. The District will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet and any user is fully responsible to the District and shall indemnify and hold the District, its trustees, administrators, teachers, and staff harmless from any and all loss, costs, claims, or damages resulting from such user's access to its computer network and the internet, including but not limited to any fees or charges incurred through purchases of goods or services by the user. The user or, if the user is a minor, the user's parent(s)/legal guardian(s) agrees to cooperate with the District in the event of the school's initiating an investigation of a user's use of his/her access to its computer network and the Internet.

#### Violations

If any user violates this policy, the user's access may be denied or withdrawn and he/she may be subject to additional disciplinary action. The district system administrator, the building principal and/or the superintendent or his/her designee, following due process, will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated this policy and any relative rules or regulations and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time with his/her/their decision being final.

#### Legal Reference:

47 U.S.C. 254(h)(5)(b)(iii) Requirements for Schools with Computers Having Internet Access  
47 U.S.C. 254(h)(5)(B) Children's Internet Protection Act

#### Policy History:

Adopted on: October 9, 2001

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Approved on: April 13, 2010

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Approved on: May 13, 2014