

STUDENT USE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Governing Board intends that technological resources provided by the district be used in a safe, responsible, and proper manner in support of the instructional program and for the advancement of student learning.

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)
(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 6163.1 - Library Media Centers)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify students and parents/guardians about authorized uses of district computers, user obligations and responsibilities, and consequences for unauthorized use and/or unlawful activities in accordance with district regulations and the district's Acceptable Use Agreement.

(cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5144 - Discipline)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process: Students with Disabilities)
(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

Before a student is authorized to use the district's technological resources, the student and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the Acceptable Use Agreement specifying user obligations and responsibilities. In that agreement, the student and his/her parent/guardian shall agree not to hold the district or any district staff responsible for the failure of any technology protection measures, violations of copyright restrictions, or user mistakes or negligence. They shall also agree to indemnify and hold harmless the district and district personnel for any damages or costs incurred.

(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

The Superintendent or designee, with input from students and appropriate staff, shall regularly review and update this policy, the accompanying administrative regulation, and other relevant procedures to enhance the safety and security of students using the district's technological resources and to help ensure that the district adapts to changing technologies and circumstances.

Use of District Computers for Online Services/Internet Access

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district computers with Internet access have a technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors, and that the operation of such measures is enforced. (20 USC 7001, 47 USC 254)

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To reinforce these measures, the Superintendent or designee shall implement rules and procedures designed to restrict students' access to harmful or inappropriate matter on the Internet and to ensure that students do not engage in unauthorized or unlawful online activities. Staff shall closely supervise students while using online services and may ask teacher aides and student aides to assist in this supervision.

The Superintendent or designee also shall establish regulations to address the safety and security of students and student information when using email, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communication.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide age-appropriate instruction regarding safe and appropriate behavior on social networking sites, chat rooms, and other Internet services. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited to, the dangers of posting personal information online, misrepresentation by online predators, how to report inappropriate or offensive content or threats, behaviors that constitute cyberbullying, and how to respond when subjected to cyberbullying.

Student use of district computers to access social networking sites is prohibited. To the extent possible, the Superintendent or designee shall block access to such sites on district computers with Internet access.

In order to help ensure that the district adapts to changing technologies and circumstances, the Superintendent or designee shall regularly review this policy, the accompanying administrative regulation and other procedures. He/she shall also monitor the district's filtering software to help ensure its effectiveness.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

51006 Computer education and resources
 51007 Programs to strengthen technological skills
 51870-51874 Education Technology
 60044 Prohibited instructional materials

PENAL CODE

313 Harmful matter
 502 Computer crimes, remedies
 632 Eavesdropping on or recording confidential communications
 653.2 Electronic communication devices, threats to safety

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 15

6501-6506 Children's Online Privacy Protection Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

6751-6777 Enhancing Education Through Technology Act, Title II, Part D,
 especially: 6777 Internet safety

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 47

254 Universal service discounts (E-rate)

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 16

312.1-312.12 Children's Online Privacy Protection Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 47

54.520 Internet safety policy and technology protection measures, E-rate discounts

Policy

adopted: May 10, 2012

EL RANCHO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pico Rivera, California

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The principal or designee shall oversee the maintenance of each school's technological resources and may establish guidelines and limits on their use. All instructional staff shall receive a copy of this administrative regulation, the accompanying Board policy, and the district's Acceptable Use Agreement describing expectations for appropriate use of the system and shall also be provided with information about the role of staff in supervising student use of technological resources. All students using these resources shall receive instruction in their proper and appropriate use.

(cf. 0440 - District Technology Plan)
(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)
(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Teachers, administrators, and/or library media specialists shall prescreen technological resources and online sites that will be used for instructional purposes to ensure that they are appropriate for the intended purpose and the age of the students.

(cf. 6163.1 - Library Media Centers)

Online/Internet Services: User Obligations and Responsibilities

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

1. The student, in whose name an online services account is issued is responsible for its proper use at all times. Students shall keep personal account numbers, and passwords private and shall only use the account to which they have been assigned.
2. Students shall use the district's system safely, responsibly, and primarily for educational purposes.
3. Students shall not access, post, 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.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)

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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)

4. Unless otherwise instructed by school personnel, students shall not disclose, use, or disseminate personal identification information about themselves or others when using email, 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, or administrative regulations.

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)
(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)

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, ridicule, bully, or cyberbully other students or staff. This includes, but is not limited to, discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying based on the actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Penal Code section 422.55 and Education Code section 220, and disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. (Educ. Code §§ 234.1(a); 48900(r).)

While not an exhaustive list, examples of bullying/cyberbullying might include:

- direct physical contact, such as hitting or shoving;
- threats to harm another person;
- oral or written assaults, such as teasing or name-calling;
- social isolation or manipulation;
- posting harassing messages, direct threats, social cruelty or other harmful texts, sounds or images on the Internet, including social networking sites;
- posting or sharing false or defamatory information about another person;
- posting or sharing information about another person that is private;
- pretending to be another person on a social networking site or other electronic communication in order to damage that person's reputation or friendships;

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- posting or sharing photographs of other people without their permission;
- spreading hurtful or demeaning materials created by another person (e.g., forwarding offensive e-mails or text messages); and retaliating against someone for complaining that they have been bullied.

(cf. 5131.2 – Bullying)

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.

(cf. 5131.9 - Academic Honesty)

(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)

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."

(cf. 5131.5 - Vandalism, Theft and Graffiti)

10. Students shall not read other users' ability to send or receive email, nor shall they attempt to read, delete, copy, modify, or use another individual's identity.

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

The district reserves the right to monitor any district systems for improper use without advance notice or consent.

Students shall be informed that computer files and electronic communications, including email, are not private and may be accessed by the district for the purpose of ensuring proper use.

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

Whenever a student is found to have violated Board policy, administrative regulation, or the district's Acceptable Use Agreement, the principal or designee may cancel or limit a student's user privileges or increase supervision of the student's use of the district's technological resources, as appropriate. Inappropriate use also may result in disciplinary action and/or legal action in accordance with law and Board policy.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

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

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

The District Annual Notification of Technology Resources Acceptable Use Agreement shall be reviewed by administrative staff annually and appropriate changes should be made to the Agreement in accordance to the law. This Agreement shall be provided to all parents and students as part of the Annual Parent Notification and posted electronically to the District website.