

Acceptable Use Policy

**HARRISBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACCEPTABLE USE AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY**

Overview:

Technology resources are available via the Internet and the local/wide area network at the Harrisburg School District. We believe these resources offer vast, diverse, and unique opportunities to both students and staff. Our goal in providing this service to students and staff is to provide educational excellence in the district by facilitation resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Students and staff are responsible for appropriate behavior on computer networks. With access to these technology resources comes the availability of material that may not be considered of educational value in the context of the school setting. Despite the availability of filters and blocking software, students and staff may nevertheless gain access to electronic information that may not be reliable or appropriate. In such cases, general school rules for behavior and communications apply. Students and staff are expected to use the Internet and HSD hardware as educational resources. The Harrisburg School District is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network or for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. The Harrisburg School District will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet. The following procedures and guidelines are used to help ensure appropriate use of technology resources, including the Internet, at the Harrisburg School District. All HSD resources must be used appropriately. This Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy (ISP) addresses the following requirements set by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):

1. Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web.
2. The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communication.
3. Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online.
4. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.
5. Measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors.
6. Monitoring the online activities of minors.

The policy of Internet safety must include a technology protection measure that protects against Internet access by both adults and minors to visual depictions that are (1) obscene, or (2) child pornography, or, with respect to use of the computers by minors, (3) harmful to minors.

Staff and Student Expectations in Use of Technology Resources:

1. Staff members and students shall not access inappropriate material on the Internet and World Wide Web, including but not limited to pornography, obscenity, or child pornography.
2. Staff members and students shall use technology resources primarily for educational purposes.
3. Staff members and students shall not engage in unauthorized access of computers, including "hacking".
4. Staff members and students shall not engage in unlawful activities.
5. Staff members shall not disclose, use, or disseminate any personal identification information of students.
6. Staff members will monitor student use of technology resources.
7. Staff members shall not disclose their network passwords to students.
8. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. Any use of the network for commercial or for-profit purposes, product advertisement, political lobbying, or illegal activity is prohibited.

Enforcement of Policy:

Harrisburg School District uses a technology protection measure that blocks or filters access to some World Wide Web sites that are not in accordance with the policy of Harrisburg School District. This measure protects against access by adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or – with respect to use of computers with Internet access by minors – harmful to minors. Filtering may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes. To ensure enforcement of the policy, Harrisburg School District will monitor use of technology resources through direct supervision, monitoring Internet use history, or various software and hardware tools.

Violation of this Policy:

Violation of Harrisburg School District's Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy in any way may result in suspension or the loss of the privilege to access the Internet and World Wide Web or other technology resources provided by the school. Other disciplinary action may be taken in accordance with existing HSD policy. When necessary, the Harrisburg School District may call in law enforcement agencies.

Student User Agreement:

I understand and will abide by the procedures and Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy (ISP) for independent access to the electronic resources of the Harrisburg School District. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, HSD disciplinary and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. In consideration for the privilege of using the Harrisburg School District electronic resources and in consideration for having access to the information contained on it, I hereby release and agree to hold harmless Harrisburg School District from any and all claims or damages of any nature arising from my access, use, or inability to access or use the computers or network system.

Student Name (please print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian Consent for Independent Use:

As the parent or guardian of the student signing above, I have read the Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy (ISP) and guidelines for independent use established by the Harrisburg School District. I grant permission for my son or daughter to access networked computer services such as electronic mail, the Internet, and World Wide Web. I understand and agree that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. I understand that some materials on the computers or Internet may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for guidance of computer or Internet and World Wide Web use – setting and conveying standards for my son or daughter to follow when selecting, sharing, or exploring information or media.

Parent or Guardian Name (please print) _____

Parent or Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Harrisburg School District Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy, Approved by Harrisburg School District Board of Control, September 15, 2008

