## LINE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: ACCEPTABLE USE OF

**TECHNOLOGY BY** 

**STUDENTS** 

ADOPTED: April 23. 2019

**REVISED:** 

## 815.1 Acceptable use of Technology by Students

1. Purpose

The Board supports the use of the Internet and other computer networks in the District's instructional program in order to facilitate learning and teaching through interpersonal communications, access to information, research and collaboration.

The use of network facilities, including remote access, shall be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the School District as well as the varied administrative and instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the student.

2. Authority

The electronic information available to students and staff does not imply endorsement of the content by the School District, nor does the District guarantee the accuracy of the information received on the Internet.

The School District shall not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet. The School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The School District is not responsible for loss or damage of information, data, non-deliveries, miss-deliveries, or service interruptions nor shall the District be responsible for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. The School District is not responsible for any damage, loss, or theft of any personal devices.

Student use of the Line Mountain School District technology may be reviewed by authorized District staff. Consequently, messages transmitted or otherwise conveyed by these systems are not and should not be considered private. Any party who uses Line Mountain School District's technology systems to transmit or receive communications shall be deemed to have consented to having the content of any such communications reviewed by the Line Mountain School District. The existence of passwords and message delete functions do not restrict Line Mountain School District's ability or right to access communications.

### Use of Approved Personal Technology

1. Access of the internet while on school property must be obtained through the Line Mountain School District network.

- 2. Responsibility for the support maintenance and repair of a personal technology rests solely with the student.
- 3. Violations of this policy by a student shall result in disciplinary action and may result in confiscation of the personal technology by school personnel.
- 4. The office of technology will promulgate procedures regarding the implementation of this policy. Line Mountain School District and school personnel will support the expectations and responsibilities outlined in this policy and will work cooperatively with the office of technology to ensure network and data security.

The Board establishes that use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right; inappropriate, unauthorized, and or illegal use may result in the cancellation of those privileges and appropriate disciplinary action as stated in the District's Student Discipline Policy (#218.)

The Board also establishes that the following materials in addition to those stated in law, are inappropriate for access: sites with pornography; sites which promote violence; sites which provide information on performing criminal or unethical acts; sites which promote or provide information on the use of illegal drugs; sites advocating or promoting discrimination or intolerance; sites which promote gambling; sites which promote possession or the use of illegal weapons; sites containing materials that are harmful to minors; sites containing materials which are demeaning, harassing, abusive, threatening or embarrassing to other users; and any other sites that the School District may deem, on a case-to-case basis, to be inappropriate in a school setting. The building administrator shall have the authority to determine what appropriate use is, and his/her decision is final, unless the Board determines otherwise.

# 3. Delegation of Responsibility

The Line Mountain School District will make every effort to ensure that this educational resource is used responsibly by students.

Administrators, teachers, and staff have a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the intellectual skills necessary to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use the information to meet their educational goals.

Students have the responsibility to respect and protect the rights of every other user in the District and on the Internet.

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for implementing

technology and procedures to determine whether the District's computers are being used for purposes prohibited by law or for accessing inappropriate, unauthorized or illegal materials, to include sexually explicit materials. Accordingly, the School District has developed lockout software blockers and other prescreening technology filters (technology protection measures) that reduce the opportunities for students to access pornographic or other offensive or inappropriate materials. Only the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee may give permission before a technology protection measure is disabled. The technology protection measures shall at least:

- Utilize a technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access to certain visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, harmful to students and District employees or determined inappropriate for use by the Board.
- 2. Maintain and secure a usage log.
- 3. Monitor online activities of students.

### 4. Guidelines

Merely because a technology protection measure does not prevent access to a particular site or to particular materials does not indicate that the site or the materials are appropriate.

### TECHNOLOGY CODE OF CONDUCT

A technology code of conduct permission form must be signed by parents/guardians and students annually to allow access to the District's technology system.

#### Rules for Use of Technology

Network accounts will be used only by the authorized user of the account for its authorized purpose. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be the property of Line Mountain School District and shall not be disclosed. Line Mountain School District reserves the right to review all communication on District technology systems. Authorized users shall respect the privacy of the other users on the system.

The users of technology at Line Mountain School District agree that they have the responsibility to act in an ethical and legal manner in accordance with District policy, accepted rules of network etiquette, and federal and state law. They understand that they have the responsibility to read, understand, and fully comply with the principles enumerated below:

- 1. To protect the privacy and property of all others and to refrain from quoting personal communications in a public forum without the original author's prior consent.
- 2. Not to use the facilities for illegal purposes.
- 3. Not to use the facilities for commercial, for-profit purposes, product advertisement or political lobbying.
- 4. Not to use the facilities for hate mail, discriminating remarks, offensive inflammatory communication or offensive language or graphics.
- 5. Not to use the facilities to intentionally obtain or modify files, passwords or data belonging to other users.
- 6. Not to misuse, abuse, modify or destroy hardware, software, and the configuration of the same.
- 7. Not to download, upload, create or distribute unauthorized and/or obscene materials, games, programs or other electronic media.
- 8. Not to impersonate another user or use pseudonyms.
- 9. Not to participate in any fraudulent copying, communications, or modifications of materials in violation of copyright laws.
- 10. Not to disrupt the work of other users.
- 11. No bullying/cyberbullying.

## STUDENTS USING APPROVED PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR CLASSROOM USE

- 12. In addition, for any students using approved personal devices a student network access agreement must be signed annually and returned to the office of technology prior to accessing the network. Personal technology discovered on the Line Mountain School District network without a completed form may be confiscated by the office of technology.
- 13. Line Mountain School District retains the right to determine where and when personal technology may access the network. Users will be allowed to connect on a space-available basis and Line Mountain School District resources will receive priority over non- Line Mountain School District equipment. Peripheral devices such as printers may not be disconnected from the network and connected to personal technology.

- 14. As applicable, all personal technology must be running up-to-date, Line Mountain School District-approved virus detection software and operating system critical updates prior to accessing the network. Equipment must be certified as virus-free before being connected to the network.
- 15. Line Mountain School District-owned software may not be installed on personal technology without written permission from Great Valley School District.
- 16. File storage on the network is limited to schoolwork only.
- 17. The user must supply all necessary hardware and software.
- 18. The Director of Technology or building principal has the right to deny the connection of personal technology to the network. Personal technology may be removed for the Line Mountain School District network at any time on the recommendation of personnel listed above.
- 19. Photos, digital images, videos, and recordings taken of students and staff in school without their consent or knowledge will not be tolerated. Violators will be subject to disciplinary actions that may include losing the privilege to possess and use electronic devises on school property.

### Consequences for Inappropriate Use

Line Mountain School District has the right to temporarily or permanently revoke privileges to use technologies and assign additional penalties such as suspension, expulsion and/or other appropriate actions if technology is misused. This action will be consistent with the District's discipline policy (#218).

The network user shall be responsible for any damage of the equipment, systems, and software resulting from deliberate or willful acts.

Illegal use of the network; intentional deletion or damage to files of data belonging to others; copyright violations or thefts of services will be reported to the appropriate authorities for possible penalties.

General rules for behavior and communications apply when using the Internet, in addition to the stipulations of this policy. Loss of access and other actions shall be consequences for inappropriate use.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of access privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet

or other networks. This includes but is not limited to the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Students committing such vandalism will be subject to discipline consistent with Policy #218.

### Security

System security is protected through the use of passwords. Failure to adequately protect or update passwords could result in unauthorized access to personal or District files. To protect the integrity of the system, the following guidelines shall be followed:

- 1. Students shall not reveal their password to another individual. All passwords should be confidential and secure.
- 2. Users are not to use a computer that has been logged in under another user's name.
- 3. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the network.
- 4. All computers and devices on the network must be secure in a "logged off" mode when leaving them unattended.
- 5. Users must not establish unauthorized external network devices including router gateway, remote dial-in access server, or set up a computer to use such devices.
- 6. Users must not engage in network packet sniffing or snooping.

### Safety

To the greatest extent possible, users of the network will be protected from harassment or unwanted or unsolicited communication. Any network user who receives threatening or unwelcome communications shall immediately bring them to the attention of a teacher or administrator.

Network users shall not reveal personal information to other users on the network, including chat rooms, e-mail, Internet, etc.

Any District computer/server utilized by students and staff shall be equipped with Internet blocking/filtering software.

If security problems are observed, it is the responsibility of all Line Mountain network users to report problems to the administration for investigation.

Internet safety measures shall effectively address the following:

1. Control access by students to inappropriate, unauthorized or illegal matter on the Internet.

- 2. Safety and security of students when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications.
- 3. Prevention of unauthorized online access by students, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities.
- 4. Unauthorized disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal information regarding students or staff.
- 5. Restriction of students' access to materials harmful to them.
- 6. Restriction on use/listening of Internet radio stations to preserve District bandwidth.

### Copyright

The illegal use of copyrighted software by students and staff is prohibited. Any data uploaded to or downloaded from the network shall be subject to fair use guidelines.

## Legal

- 1. Pol. 103, 103, 104, 218, 218.1, 218.2, 220, 233, 237, 248, 249, 317, 348, 417, 448, 517, 548, 814
- 2. 47 U.S.C. 254
- 3. 20 U.S.C. 6777
- 4. 24 P.S. 1303.1-A
- 5. 24 P.S. 4604
- 6. 47 CFR 54.520
- 7. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 5903
- 8. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6312
- 9. 24 P.S. 4601 et seq
- 10.18 U.S.C. 2256
- 11.47 CFR 54.520
- 12.17 U.S.C. 101 et seq