INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE PROCEDURES

Student Use of Newport News Public Schools Networked Computing Resources

This school system provides computer systems with access to Internet and electronic mail (e-mail) to students to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovations, and communications. The use of these systems shall be consistent with School Board policy IJND Technology Acceptable Use and the educational objectives of the division.

All NNPS computing systems and peripherals are the property of the division and are intended for the purpose of conducting official school business only. Students shall use these tools in an education manner consistent with federal copyright laws, with state laws, and with district policies governing student behavior. Internet and e-mail shall not be utilized to share confidential information about students or employees. All illegal and improper use of the computing systems, including but not limited to obscenity, harassment, solicitation, chain letters, special interest group proselytizing, harassing or threatening, gambling, sexual innuendo, pornography, and violating copyright or intellectual property rights are prohibited.

Communications over the division’s network shall be considered public information and handled as such; there is no expectation to privacy while communicating, in any format, on the divisions’ network. NNPS Technology Operations may periodically review directories or messages to determine compliance with policy IJND for acceptable use. If unacceptable content or use is found, access privileges may be removed and the offender counseled at an appropriate level.

Teachers are to supervise student’s Internet and e-mail access and usage and, if non-acceptable use is found, provide immediate, appropriate, and logical consequences to the student, including revoking privileges, if warranted, and possibly other disciplinary action. One designated employee at each school will manage student Internet and e-mail account access rights with oversight by Technology Operations. Account rights and passwords are not to be shared outside of the intended owner(s). Students will keep passwords secure and will change passwords if directed by Technology Operations.

Any statement of personal belief expressed on the Internet or in an e-mail is implicitly understood to be the author’s individual point of view, and not that of NNPS, its administrators, teachers, staff, or any of its schools.

The school Principal will ensure that all pertinent students have notice of this policy and are provided a “Student-Parent-School Partnership Form” to read, sign, and have signed by their parent/guardian. This form will be maintained in the student’s scholastic record.

Training

- All students shall be taught Internet safety, security, and ethics before use of the Internet. Access will not be provided until this is completed.

Security

- Students shall not use any other account name and password than their own or a specially-designated general-use set to access the division’s computing resources.
- Accessing any local network files, documents, applications, etc., without express permission by an authorized staff member is forbidden.

Copyright and Citations

- Any copyrighted materials are subject to the Fair Use provision of copyrighted law as it relates to education. Information concerning Fair Use can be found in each school library.

Undesirable Materials

- NNPS will take all reasonable precautions to restrict student access to undesirable materials. However, students and employees must also accept responsibility for restricting access to these materials.
- Students who gain access to undesirable Internet materials shall report such access to their teacher.
- Employees who gain knowledge of undesirable Internet materials shall report such knowledge to the Administrator in the building and to Technology Operations.

Software

- Only division approved and provided software shall be loaded on division computing systems. No software, including but not limited to games, freeware, demonstration software, and shareware shall be downloaded from the Internet or installed on any NNPS computer unless expressly arranged by Technology Operations.

Social Networking Technologies

- Nothing in the aspect of, access to, or operation of social networking technologies (whether in the form of software, websites, hardware, or other technologies) shall exempt students from the same procedures and responsibilities established elsewhere in this document.
- Additionally, students shall take all reasonable care to protect their personal information while using social networking technologies

Commercial Use

- Commercial use of the Internet by NNPS students is prohibited.

Violations may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

Reference School Board Policy and Procedures IJND for the complete Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

The Parent/Legal Guardian may withdraw permission by providing written notice to the school.

TECH – 05/12 Technology Operations