5111.01 - HOMELESS STUDENTS

Children who meet the Federal definition of "homeless" will be provided a free appropriate public education in the same manner as all other students of the District. To that end, homeless students will not be stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless and will be assigned to the school serving those non-homeless students residing in the area in which the homeless child is actually living. The District shall establish safeguards that protect homeless students from discrimination on the basis of their homelessness.

Homeless children and youth are defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and include those who meet any of the following criteria:

A. share the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason
B. live in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to a lack of alternative adequate accommodations
C. live in emergency or transitional shelters
D. are abandoned in hospitals
E. are awaiting for foster care placement
F. have a primary night time residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, or
G. live in a car, park, public space, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting

Additionally, pursuant to Federal and State law, migratory children who are living in circumstances described in A-G above are also considered homeless.

Homeless preschool-aged children and their families shall be provided equal access to the educational services for which they are eligible, including preschool programs administered by the School District.

The District shall remove barriers to the enrollment and retention of homeless students in schools in the District. Homeless students shall be enrolled immediately, even if they do not have the necessary
enrollment documentation such as immunization and health records, proof of residency or guardianship, birth certificate, school records, and other documentation.

Homeless students will be provided services comparable to other students in the District including:

A. transportation services;  
B. educational services for which the homeless student meets eligibility criteria including services provided under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act or similar State and local programs, educational programs for children with disabilities, and educational programs for students with limited English proficiency;  
C. programs in vocational and technical education;  
D. programs for gifted and talented students; and  
E. school nutrition programs;  
F. before- and after-school programs.

Homeless students have the right to remain in their school of origin of the local attendance area school, according to the child's best interest. The school of origin is the school that the student attended when permanently housed or last enrolled. The local attendance area school is any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the student is actually living are eligible to attend.

Homeless students have the right to dispute their school assignment, if their assignment is other than their school of origin. In determining the best interest of the student, the District shall, to the extent feasible, keep the student in the school of origin, except when doing so is contrary to the wishes of the homeless student's parent or guardian or the unaccompanied youth. If the student is sent to a school other than the school of origin or a school requested by the parent or guardian, a written explanation, including a statement regarding the right to appeal, will be provided to the homeless student's parent or guardian or the unaccompanied youth.

The Board of Education requires that these rights and the dispute process be communicated to the parent or guardian of the homeless student or unaccompanied youth.

In addition to notifying the parent or guardian of the homeless student or unaccompanied youth of the rights described above, the District shall post public notice of educational rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness in each school.

At the request of the parent or guardian, or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the local homeless liaison, transportation shall be provided for a homeless student to and from the school of origin as follows:

A. If the homeless student continues to live in the School District in which the school of origin is located, transportation will be provided in accordance with District policy/administrative guidelines.
B. If the homeless student moves to an area served by another district, though continuing his/her education at the school of origin, the district of origin and the district in which the student resides must agree upon a method to apportion responsibility and costs for transportation to the school of origin. If the districts cannot agree upon such a method, the responsibility and costs must be shared equally.

The Superintendent will appoint a Liaison for Homeless Children who will perform the duties as assigned by the Superintendent. Additionally, the Liaison will coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth as well as with community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths.

The homeless liaison will assist, to the extent feasible, the homeless students and their parent(s) or guardian(s) or unaccompanied homeless students in their efforts to provide documentation to meet State and local requirements for entry into school.

All records for homeless students shall be maintained so that they are available in a timely fashion and can be transferred promptly as necessary.

No Board policy, administrative procedure, or practice will be interpreted or applied in such a way as to inhibit the enrollment, attendance, or school success of homeless children.

42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq. (McKinney - Vento Homeless Act)

Revised 5/12/11

© Neola 2010

Mad River Local School District
Administrative Guidelines

5111.01 - HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Liaison for Homeless Children and Youth is responsible for safeguarding the rights of children and youth experiencing homelessness who attend school in this District. The Liaison must be notified immediately upon the enrollment or assignment of a homeless child/youth. The Liaison will coordinate District operations and services so that:

A. homeless children/youth are identified, with special attention given to the locating and enrolling of homeless children/youth who are not currently attending school;

B. homeless children/youth have a full and fair opportunity to succeed in school;
C. homeless families and children/youth receive all educational services for which they are eligible, including any District preschool programs, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services, and other appropriate services;

D. parents or guardians of homeless students are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in their children's education;

E. public notice of the educational rights of homeless children/youth is disseminated at locations where homeless families and children/youth receive services, such as schools, family shelters, soup kitchens, public aid offices, city hall, food pantries, public libraries, court houses, and police stations;

F. enrollment/assignment disputes between the District and homeless parents/guardians/unaccompanied youth are mediated/handled in accordance with Board policy, District guidelines, applicable laws, and the State Consolidated Plan;

G. the parents or guardians of any homeless child and any unaccompanied homeless minor are fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin, and are assisted in accessing transportation to the school that is appropriately selected;

H. appropriate data is collected and reported regarding homeless children and youth as required by the U.S. Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Education for use in making necessary program adjustments.

Upon enrollment of a child or youth experiencing homelessness, the Liaison will coordinate with appropriate administrative staff to assure that the school last attended by the child/youth is immediately contacted to provide relevant academic or other relevant records. If upon enrollment the student does not have any immunization required for enrollment by State law or any other medical records, the Liaison will assist the family or student in obtaining the immunizations or necessary medical records. The Liaison will also contact the Director of Transportation to assure transportation of the homeless student is provided in accordance with the Board's Transportation Policy.

Any disputes regarding the enrollment or assignment of a homeless student will be referred to the Liaison for expeditious resolution. The Liaison should attempt to resolve disputes within five (5) school days. Any dispute which cannot be resolved by the Liaison should be reported to the State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth at the Ohio Department of Education. According to State guidelines, the State Coordinator has an additional five (5) school days from the time of notification to bring about resolution. Individuals not satisfied with the State Coordinator's proposed resolution can appeal such decision to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction within five (5) school days for final resolution of the dispute.

As part of his/her assigned duties, the Liaison will coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator for Homeless Children and other community and school personnel responsible for providing education and related services to homeless children, including, but not limited to:

A. School District services with local social service agencies and other agencies or programs providing services to homeless children and their families; and
B. With other school districts on inter-district issues, such as transportation or the transfer of school records.

Such coordination should be designed to: (1) facilitate homeless children/youth having access and reasonable proximity to available education and related support services; and (2) raise the awareness of school personnel and service providers of the effects of short-term stays in a shelter and other challenges associated with homelessness.

As part of his/her assigned duties, the Liaison for Homeless Children and Youth will inform school personnel, services providers and advocates working with homeless families about his/her duties.

© Neola 2010

Mad River Local School District
Bylaws & Policies

2111 - PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

The Board of Education recognizes and values parents and families as children's first teachers and decision-makers in education. The Board believes that student learning is more likely to occur when there is an effective partnership between the school and the student's parents and family. Such a partnership between the home and school and greater involvement of parents in the education of their children generally result in higher academic achievement, improved student behavior, and reduced absenteeism.

In accordance with statute and the State Board of Education Parent and Family Involvement Policy, use of the term "families" is used in order to include children's primary caregivers, who are not their biological parents, such as foster caregivers, grandparents, and other family members.

In cultivating partnerships with families and communities, the Board is committed to the following:

A. Relationships with Families

1. cultivating school environments that are welcoming, supportive, and student-centered; 4

2. providing professional development for school staff that helps build partnerships between families and schools; 2,3, 4

3. providing family activities that relate to various cultures, languages, practices, and customs, and bridge economic and cultural barriers; 2,3
4. providing coordination, technical support and other support to assist schools in planning and implementing family involvement activities.  

B. **Effective Communication**

1. providing information to families to support the proper health, safety, and well-being of their children;

2. providing information to families about school policies, procedures, programs, and activities;  

3. promoting regular and open communication between school personnel and students' family members;

4. communicating with families in a format and language that is understandable, to the extent practicable;

5. providing information and involving families in monitoring student progress;

6. providing families with timely and meaningful information regarding Ohio's academic standards, State and local assessments, and pertinent legal provisions;  

7. preparing families to be involved in meaningful discussions and meetings with school staff.

C. **Volunteer Opportunities**

providing volunteer opportunities for families to support their children's school activities.

D. **Learning at Home**

1. offering training and resources to help families learn strategies and skills to support at-home learning and success in school;

2. working with families to establish learning goals and help their children accomplish these goals;

2. helping families to provide a school and home environment that encourages learning and extends learning at home.
E. Involving Families in Decision Making and Advocacy

1. involving families as partners in the process of school review and continuous improvement planning; ²,³,⁴

2. involving families in the development of its District-wide parent involvement policy and plan, and distributing the policy and plan to families. ²,³,⁴

F. Collaborating with the Community

1. building constructive partnerships and connecting families with community-based programs and other community resources; ²,³,⁴

2. coordinating and integrating family involvement programs and activities with District initiatives and community-based programs that encourage and support families' participation in their children's education, growth, and development. ²,³,⁴

Implementation

The Superintendent will provide for a comprehensive plan to engage parents, families, and community members in a partnership in support of each student's academic achievement, the District's continuous improvement, and individual school improvement plans. The plan will provide for annual evaluation, with the involvement of parents and families, of the plan's effectiveness and identification of barriers to participation by parents and families. Evaluation findings will be used in the annual review of the Parent and Family Involvement policy and to improve the effectiveness of the District plan.

¹Indicates R.C. 3312.472 State Requirements
²Indicates IDEA 2004 Section 650 & 644 parent involvement requirements
³Indicates Title I Section 1118 parent involvement requirements
⁴Indicates State Board Parent and Family Involvement Policy recommendations

R.C. 3313.472

Mad River Local School District
Bylaws & Policies

---

2261.01 - PARENT PARTICIPATION IN TITLE I PROGRAMS

In accordance with the requirements of Federal law, programs supported by Title I funds must be planned and implemented in meaningful consultation with parents of the students being served.
Each year the Superintendent shall work with parents of children served in Title I Programs in order to jointly develop and agree upon a proposed written parent involvement policy to establish expectations for the involvement of such parents in the education of their children. The proposed policy shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Education and distributed to parents of children receiving Title I services. The proposed policy must describe how the School District will:

A. involve parents in the development of the School District’s Title I plans and in the process of school review and improvement, if necessary;  

B. provide coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student achievement and school performance;  

C. build the schools’ and parents’ capacity for strong parental involvement;  

D. coordinate and integrate parent involvement strategies with parent involvement strategies under other programs such as Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, Parents and Teachers, and Home Instruction for Preschool Youngsters;  

E. in consultation with parents, annually evaluate the content and effectiveness of the parent involvement policy in improving the academic quality of schools, including:  

   1. identifying barriers to greater parent participation;  
   2. designing strategies for more effective parental involvement; and,  
   3. revising the parental involvement policy if necessary;  

F. involve parents of children receiving Title I services in deciding how Title I funds reserved for parent involvement activities will be allocated;  

G. provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in a format, and to the extent practicable in a language, such parents can understand;  

H. conduct meetings with parents including provisions for flexible scheduling and assistance to parents to better assure their attendance at meetings;  

I. develop agendas for parent meetings to include review and explanation of the curriculum, means of assessments, and the proficiency levels students are expected to achieve and maintain;  

J. provide opportunities for parents to formulate suggestions, interact and share experiences with other parents, and participate appropriately in the decision-making about the program and revisions in the plan;
K. involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the Title I program;

L. communicate information concerning school performance profiles and their child’s individual performance to parents;

M. assist parents in helping their children in achieving the objectives of the program by such means as ensuring regular attendance, monitoring television-watching, providing adequate time and the proper environment for homework; guiding nutritional and health practices, and the like;

N. provide timely responses to parental questions, concerns, and recommendations;

O. coordinate and provide technical assistance and other support necessary to assist Title I schools to develop effective parent participation activities to improve academic achievement;

P. conduct other activities as appropriate to the Title I plan and State and Federal requirements.

The Superintendent must also assure that each Title I participating school develops a specific written plan, with parental involvement and agreement, which includes provisions regarding the following:

A. Each principal must convene an annual meeting at a convenient time to which all parents of participating children are invited and encouraged to attend to explain the parents’ rights to be involved and the school’s obligations to develop a parental involvement plan.

B. Meetings with parents of children receiving Title I services must be scheduled at flexible times with assistance such as child care, transportation, home visits, or similar aid offered to parents to encourage their involvement.

C. Parents must be involved in an organized, on-going and timely way in the development, review, and improvement of parent involvement activities.

D. Parents of participating students must be provided with:

1. timely information about the Title I program and the school’s parent involvement policy;

2. a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels expected;

3. regular meetings, upon request, for parents to make suggestions, and to participate as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and receive responses regarding the parents’ suggestions about their student’s education as soon as practicably possible.
E. As a component of the school parental involvement policy, the principal for each school shall coordinate the development of a school-parent compact jointly with parents which outlines how the school staff, the parents, and the student will share responsibility for academic improvement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help students achieve State standards. The compact must:

1. describe the school's responsibility to provide a high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive, effective learning environment;

2. describe the parent's responsibility to support their child's learning environment such as monitoring attendance, homework, extra-curricular activities and excessive television watching; volunteering in the classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children;

3. address the importance of parent/teacher communication on an on-going basis through at least annual parent teacher conferences to discuss achievement and the compact; frequent progress reports to the parents on their child's progress; and reasonable access to the staff and to observe and participate in classroom activities.

F. Parents of children receiving Title I services must be notified about school parent involvement policies in an understandable and uniform format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand. These policies must also be made available to the community.

G. School parent involvement policies must be evaluated periodically to consider whether they meet the changing needs of parents and the schools.

In order to involve parents in the education of their children and to support a partnership among the school, parents and the community for improving students achievement, the Superintendent and building principals must include provisions in the School District and school parent involvement policies regarding:

A. assisting parents of children served under Title I in understanding the State’s academic content and assessment standards, and in understanding how to monitor their child’s progress and how to work with educators to improve their child’s achievement;

B. providing materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement;

C. educating teachers, pupil services personnel, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, about the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, how to implement and coordinate parent programs, and how to build ties between parents and the school;

D. to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordination and integration of parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal programs;
In order to build the School District’s capacity for parent involvement, the Superintendent and building principals may also:

A. involve parents in the development of training for teachers and administrators to improve the effectiveness of such training;

B. pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions, including transportation and child care costs;

C. train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents;

D. adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement;

E. establish a District-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement programs;

F. develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parental involvement activities.

20 U.S.C. 6318 et seq.
34 C.F.R. Part 200 et seq.

Mad River Local School District
Bylaws & Policies

7540.03 - STUDENT NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Advances in telecommunications and other related technologies have fundamentally altered the ways in which information is accessed, communicated, and transferred in society. Such changes are driving the need for educators to adapt their means and methods of instruction, and the way they approach student learning, to harness and utilize the vast, diverse, and unique resources available on the Internet. The Board of Education is pleased to provide Internet services to its students. The District’s Internet system has a limited educational purpose. The District’s Internet system has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. The Board has the right to place restrictions on its use to assure that use of the District’s Internet system is in accord with its limited educational purpose. Student use of the District’s computers, network and Internet services ("Network") will be governed by this policy and the related administrative guidelines, and the Student Code of Conduct. The due process rights of all users will be respected in the event there is a suspicion of inappropriate use of the Network. Users have no
right or expectation to privacy when using the Network (including, but not limited to, privacy in the content
of their personal files, e-mails, and records of their online activity while on the Network).

The Board encourages students to utilize the Internet in order to promote educational excellence in our
schools by providing them with the opportunity to develop the resource sharing, innovation, and
communication skills and tools that are essential to both life and work. The instructional use of the
Internet will be guided by the Board's policy on instructional materials.

The Internet is a global information and communication network that provides students and staff with
access to up-to-date, highly relevant information that will enhance their learning and the education
process. Further, the Internet provides students and staff with the opportunity to communicate with other
people from throughout the world. Access to such an incredible quantity of information and resources
brings with it, however, certain unique challenges and responsibilities.

First, and foremost, the Board may not be able to technologically limit access, through the Board's
Internet connection, to only those services and resources that have been authorized for the purpose of
instruction, study and research related to the curriculum. Unlike in the past when educators and
community members had the opportunity to review and screen materials to assess their appropriateness
for supporting and enriching the curriculum according to adopted guidelines and reasonable selection
criteria (taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental
levels of the students who would be exposed to them), access to the Internet, because it serves as a
gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, will open classrooms and students to electronic
information resources that have not been screened by educators for use by students of various ages.

Pursuant to Federal law, the Board has implemented technology protection measures, which protect
against (e.g. filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions/materials that are obscene, constitute
child pornography, and/or are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. At
the discretion of the Board or the Superintendent, the technology protection measures may be configured
to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access. The Board
also utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to child
pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors.
The technology protection measures may not be disabled at any time that students may be using the
Network, if such disabling will cease to protect against access to materials that are prohibited under the
Children’s Internet Protection Act. Any student who attempts to disable the technology protection
measures will be subject to discipline.

The Superintendent or Technology Department may temporarily or permanently unblock access to sites
containing appropriate material, if access to such sites has been inappropriately blocked by the
technology protection measures. The determination of whether material is appropriate or inappropriate
shall be based on the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the protection
actions of the technology protection measures.

Parents are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services and/or resources on
the Internet that the Board has not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it is impossible to
guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they
and/or their parents may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial. Parents assume
risks by consenting to allow their child to participate in the use of the Internet. Parents of minors are
responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the
Internet. The Board supports and respects each family's right to decide whether to apply for independent
student access to the Internet.

Pursuant to Federal law, students shall receive education about the following:
A. safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media, and other forms of direct electronic communications

B. the dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally identifiable information

C. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking") cyberbullying and other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online, and

D. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors

Staff members shall provide instruction for their students regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified above. Furthermore, staff members will monitor the online activities of students while at school.

Monitoring may include, but is not necessarily limited to, visual observations of online activities during class sessions; or use of specific monitoring tools to review browser history and network, server, and computer logs.

Building principals are responsible for providing training so that Internet users under their supervision are knowledgeable about this policy and its accompanying guidelines. The Board expects that staff members will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of the Internet. Such training shall include, but not be limited to, education concerning appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. All Internet users (and their parents if they are minors) are required to sign a written agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students and staff members are responsible for good behavior on the Board's computers/network and the Internet just as they are in classrooms, school hallways, and other school premises and school sponsored events. Communications on the Internet are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communication apply. The Board does not sanction any use of the Internet that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its accompanying guidelines.

Students shall not access social media for personal use from the District's network, but shall be permitted to access social media for educational use in accordance with their teacher's approved plan for such use.

Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying guidelines may have their use privileges suspended or revoked, and disciplinary action taken against them. Users granted access to the Internet through the Board's computers assume personal responsibility and liability, both civil and criminal, for uses of the Internet not authorized by this Board policy and its accompanying guidelines.

The Board designates the Superintendent and Technology Department as the administrators responsible for initiating, implementing, and enforcing this policy and its accompanying guidelines as they apply to students' use of the Network.

P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000
18 U.S.C. 1460
Students are encouraged to use the Board's computers, network, and Internet connection ("Network") for educational purposes. Use of the Network is a privilege, not a right. When using the Network, students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Unauthorized or inappropriate use of the Network, including any violation of these guidelines, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the Student Handbook, and/or civil or criminal liability. Prior to accessing the Network students must sign the Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement. Parent permission is required for minors. Parents are encouraged to discuss their values with their children and encourage students to make decisions regarding their use of the Network that is in accord with their personal and family values, in addition to the Board’s standards.

Smooth operation of the Board's Network relies upon users adhering to the following guidelines. The guidelines outlined below are not exhaustive, but are provided so that users are aware of their general responsibilities.

A. Students are responsible for their behavior and communication on the Network. All use of the Network must be consistent with the educational mission and goals of the District.

B. Students may only access the Network by using their assigned Network account. Use of another person's account/address/password is prohibited. Students may not allow other users to utilize their account/address/password. Students may not go beyond their authorized access. Students are responsible for taking steps to prevent unauthorized access to their accounts by logging off or "locking" their computers when leaving them unattended.

C. Students may not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, data or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the Network. Students may not intentionally disable any security features of the Network.

D. Students may not use the Network to engage in "hacking" or other illegal activities (e.g. software pirating; intellectual property violations; engaging in slander, libel, or harassment; threatening the life or safety of another;
stalking; transmission of obscene materials or child pornography; including sexting; fraud; sale of illegal substances and goods).

1. Slander and libel are terms defined specifically in law. Generally, slander is "oral communication of false statements injurious to a person's reputation," and libel is "a false publication in writing, printing, or typewriting or in signs or pictures that maliciously damages a person's reputation or the act or an instance of presenting such a statement to the public." (The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language. Third Edition is licensed from Houghton Mifflin Company. Copyright © 1992 by Houghton Mifflin Company. All rights reserved.) Students shall not knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization. Students are reminded that material distributed over the Internet is "public" to a degree no other school publication or utterance is. As such, any remark may be seen by literally millions of people and harmful and false statements will be viewed in that light.

2. Students shall not use the Network to transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based upon their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or political beliefs. Sending, sharing, viewing or possessing pictures, text messages, e-mails or other materials of a sexual nature (i.e. sexting) in electronic or any other form, including the contents of a wireless communication device or other electronic equipment is grounds for discipline. Such actions will be reported to local law enforcement and child services as required by law.

E. Transmission of any material in violation of any State or Federal law or regulation, or Board policy is prohibited.

F. Any use of the Network for commercial purposes (e.g., purchasing or offering for sale personal products or services by students), advertising, or political lobbying is prohibited. This provision shall not limit the use of the Network by students for the purpose of communicating with elected representatives or expressing views on political issues.

G. Use of the Network to engage in cyberbullying is prohibited. "Cyberbullying" is defined as the use of information and communication technologies (such as e-mail, cell phone and pager text messages, instant messaging (IM), defamatory personal websites, and defamatory online personal polling websites,) to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others." [Bill Belsey (http//www.cyberbullying.ca)]

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to the following:
1. posting slurs or rumors or other disparaging remarks about a student on a website or on weblog;

2. sending e-mail or instant messages that are mean or threatening, or so numerous as to drive up the victim’s cell phone bill;

3. using a camera phone to take and send embarrassing and/or sexually explicit photographs/recordings of students;

4. posting misleading or fake photographs of students on websites.

H. Students are expected to abide by the following generally-accepted rules of network etiquette:

1. Be polite, courteous, and respectful in your messages to others. Use language appropriate to school situations in any communications made through the Network. Do not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, sexually explicit, defamatory, threatening, abusive or disrespectful language in communications through the Network (including, but not limited to, public messages, private messages, and material posted on web pages).

2. Do not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.

3. Do not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. If a student is told by a person to stop sending him/her messages, the student must stop.

4. Do not post information that, if acted upon, could cause damage or a danger of disruption.

5. Never reveal names, addresses, phone numbers, or passwords of yourself or other students, family members, teachers, administrators, or other staff members while communicating on the Internet. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, disclosing personal identification information on commercial websites.

6. Do not transmit pictures or other information that could be used to establish your identity without prior approval of a teacher.
7. Never agree to get together with someone you "meet" on-line without parent approval and participation.

8. Check e-mail frequently, and delete e-mail promptly from the personal mail directory to avoid excessive use of the electronic mail disk space.

9. Students should promptly disclose to their teacher or other school employee any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable, especially any e-mail that contains sexually explicit content (e.g. pornography). Students should not delete such messages until instructed to do so by a staff member.

I. Students shall not use the Network to access, process, distribute, display or print Prohibited Material at any time, for any purpose. Students may only access, process, distribute, display or print Restricted Material and/or Limited Access Material as authorized below.

1. Prohibited Material includes material that constitutes child pornography and material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors, as defined by the Children’s Internet Protection Act. As such, the following material is prohibited: material that appeals to a prurient or unhealthy interest in nudity, sex, and excretion; material that depicts, describes, or represents in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and material that lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors. Prohibited material also includes material that appeals to a prurient or unhealthy interest in, or depicts, describes, or represents in a patently offensive way, violence, death, or bodily functions; material designated as for "adults" only; and material that promotes or advocates illegal activities.

2. Restricted Material may not be accessed by elementary or middle school students at any time, for any purpose. Restricted Material may be accessed by high school or middle school students in the context of specific learning activities that have been approved by a teacher or staff member for legitimate research purposes. Materials that may arguably fall within the description provided for Prohibited Material that have clear educational relevance, such as material with literary, artistic, political, or scientific value, will be considered to be Restricted. In addition, Restricted Material includes materials that promote or advocate the use of alcohol and tobacco, hate, and discrimination, satanic and cult group membership, school cheating, and weapons. Sites that contain personal advertisements or facilitate making online connections with other people are Restricted unless such sites have been specifically approved by building principal.
3. Limited Access Material is material that is generally considered to be non-educational or entertainment. Limited Access Material may be accessed in the context of specific learning activities that are directed by a teacher or during periods of time that a school may designate as "open access" time. Limited Access Material includes such material as electronic commerce, games, jokes, recreation, entertainment, sports, and investment.

If a student inadvertently accesses material that is considered Prohibited or Restricted, s/he should immediately disclose the inadvertent access to the teacher or building principal. This will protect the student against an allegation that s/he intentionally violated the provision.

The determination of whether material is Prohibited, Restricted, or Limited Access shall be based on the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the protective actions of the technology protection measures. The fact that the technology protection measures have not protected against access to certain material shall not create the presumption that such material is appropriate for students to access. The fact that the technology protection measures have blocked access to certain material shall not create the presumption that the material is inappropriate for students to access.

J. Malicious use of the Network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited. Students may not engage in vandalism or use the Network in such a way that would disrupt its use by others. Vandalism is defined as any malicious or intentional attempt to harm, steal or destroy data of another user, school networks, or technology hardware. This includes but is not limited to uploading or creation of computer viruses, installing unapproved software, changing equipment configurations, deliberately destroying or stealing hardware and its components, or seeking to circumvent or bypass Network security and/or the Board's technology protection measures. Students also must avoid intentionally wasting limited resources. Students must immediately notify the teacher, building principal, or Technology Department if they identify a possible security problem. Students should not go looking for security problems, because this may be construed as an unlawful attempt to gain access.

K. All communications and information accessible via the Internet should be assumed to be private property (i.e. copyrighted and/or trademarked). All copyright issues regarding software, information, and attributions/acknowledgement of authorship must be respected. Rules against plagiarism will be enforced.

L. Downloading of information onto the Board's hard drives is prohibited, without prior approval from the supervising teacher. If a student transfers files from information services and electronic bulletin board services, the
student must check the file with a virus-detection program before opening the file for use. Only public domain software may be downloaded. If a student transfers a file or installs a software program that infects the Network with a virus and causes damage, the student will be liable for any and all repair costs to make the Network once again fully operational.

M. Students must secure prior approval from a teacher or the principal before joining a Listserv (electronic mailing lists) and should not post personal messages on bulletin boards or Listservs.

N. Students are prohibited from accessing or participating in online "chat rooms" or other forms of direct electronic communication (e.g., instant messaging) (other than e-mail) without prior approval from a teacher or the principal. All such authorized communications must comply with these guidelines.

O. Users have no right or expectation to privacy when using the Network. The District reserves the right to access and inspect any facet of the Network, including, but not limited to, computers, devices, networks or Internet connections, e-mail or other messaging or communication systems or any other electronic media within its technology systems or that otherwise constitutes its property and any data, information, e-mail, communication, transmission, upload, download, message or material of any nature or medium that may be contained therein. A student's use of the Network constitutes his/her waiver of any right to privacy in anything s/he creates, stores, sends, transmits, uploads, downloads or receives on or through the Network and related storage medium and equipment. Routine maintenance and monitoring, utilizing both technical monitoring systems and staff monitoring, may lead to discovery that a user has violated Board policy and/or the law. An individual search will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that a user has violated Board policy and/or law, or if requested by local, State or Federal law enforcement officials. Students' parents have the right to request to see the contents of their children's files, e-mails and records.

The following notice will be included as part of the computer log-on screen:

"The District's computers, network, and Internet system is to be used for educational and professional purposes. Users are reminded that all Network use, including Internet use, is monitored by the District."

P. Use of the Internet and any information procured from the Internet is at the student's own risk. The Board makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the Network will be error-free or without defect. The Board is not responsible for any damage a user may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss of data, service interruptions, or exposure to inappropriate material or people. The Board is not responsible for the
accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Internet. Information (including text, graphics, audio, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers, reports, and projects must be cited the same as references to printed materials. The Board will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the Network. Students or parents of students will indemnify and hold the Board harmless from any losses sustained as the result of misuse of the Network by the student. Use of the Network by students will be limited to those students whose parents have signed a release of claims for damages against the Board.

Q. Disclosure, use and/or dissemination of personal identification information of minors via the Internet is prohibited, except as expressly authorized by the minor student's parent/guardian on the "Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement Form."

R. Proprietary rights in the design of websites hosted on the Board's servers remains at all times with the Board.

S. File-sharing is strictly prohibited. Students are prohibited from downloading and/or installing file-sharing software or programs on the Network.

T. Students may not establish or access web-based e-mail accounts on commercial services through the Network (e.g., Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo mail, etc.).

U. Since there is no central authority on the Internet, each site is responsible for its own users. Complaints received from other sites regarding any of the District’s users will be fully investigated and disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

V. Preservation of Resources and Priorities of Use: Computer resources are limited. Because space on disk drives and bandwidth across the lines which connect the Network (both internally and externally) are limited, neither programs nor information may be stored on the system without the permission of the teacher or principal. Each student is permitted reasonable space to store e-mail, web, and personal files. The Board reserves the right to require the purging of files in order to regain disk space. Students who require access to the Network for class- or instruction-related activities have priority over other users. Students not using the Network for class-related activities may be "bumped" by any student requiring access for class- or instruction-related purpose. The following hierarchy will prevail in governing access to the Network:

1. Class work, assigned and supervised by a staff member.

2. Class work, specifically assigned but independently conducted.
3. Personal correspondence (e-mail – checking, composing, and sending).

4. Training (use of such programs as typing tutors, etc.).

5. Personal discovery ("surfing the Internet").

6. Other uses – access to resources for "other uses" may be further limited during the school day at the discretion of the building principal or Technology Department.

P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000
18 U.S.C. 1460
18 U.S.C. 2246
18 U.S.C. 2256

© Neola 2012