

Mounds View Public Schools Ends and Goals Regulation

EG-2111 Use of Technology - Community

ACCEPTABLE USE

Mounds View Schools strive to prepare all students for the future by providing a challenging education which builds academic competence, develops responsible citizenship, encourages creativity, promotes lifelong learning, advances critical thinking skills, instills a commitment to personal wellness, and fosters respect for self and others.

In carrying out this goal, the District may provide community members with access to computers and other equipment enabling them to access the Internet, to use electronic mail, to create Internet web pages, and to send, receive and store documents. Use of this equipment will be limited to educational purposes, including classroom instruction, educational research and curriculum and professional development.

DEFINITIONS

District System

The District System is all of the School District computers and communications equipment, including but not limited to all computers, Internet access, electronic mail systems, voice mail systems, databases, network storage devices, facsimile machines, cable television system and all other audio or video systems.

Acceptable Use

General Definition and Parameters

The District's System may only be used for appropriate educational purposes. In general terms, appropriate educational purposes include school administration, classroom instruction, educational research, and curriculum or professional development.

Restrictions and Limitations on Acceptable Use

Access to the District's System is a privilege. The District may revoke the access of any user who violates any District policy or applicable law. In addition, users are prohibited from using the District System to send or receive messages, pictures, or documents that are fraudulent, illegal, pornographic, obscene, indecent, sexually explicit, discriminatory, harassing, defamatory, threatening or which are intended to promote or incite violence against person or property.

Users are prohibited from installing, without authorization, software on the District System.

The District System will not be used for political lobbying, including the endorsement of political candidates (with the exception that students, staff and community members may use the District System to communicate with their elected representatives). In addition, the District System will not be used for personal commercial activity, including selling, purchasing, advertising or soliciting goods or services. The School District will not be responsible for any financial obligations arising from a user's activities on the District System and users will be held responsible for such obligations.

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Users are prohibited from using software that is designed to destroy data, provide unauthorized access to computer or communication equipment or which would disrupt the District System in any way. This includes, by way of example only, using any software viruses, Trojan horses, worms or other invasive software.

Users are prohibited from doing anything which would degrade the performance of the District's System including, but not limited to, deliberately disrupting a computer or the computer network.

Users are prohibited from forging, altering or otherwise concealing the identity of the person sending messages or other forms of communication with the District System.

Consequences for community members who violate any provision of this policy may include referral to law enforcement for possible criminal prosecution and restitution.

Personal Electronic Devices

Personal Electronic Devices that are connected to the District System become a de facto extension of Mounds Views District System and are therefore subject to all applicable state and federal law in addition to district technology security policies. All personal computers connected to Mounds Views District System must employ antivirus software patched with the latest anti-virus definitions.

Data Privacy

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Minnesota Governmental Data Practices Act (DPA) define educational records as those records, files, documents and other materials which contain information directly related to a student. These laws classify educational records as "private or confidential" data that cannot be released to the public without a court order. Directory Information as defined in Policy EG-3110 is not data that is private or confidential.

Privacy

Electronic communications must conform with the definition of "acceptable uses." The School District reserves the right to read, listen to or otherwise access files and information transmitted on District systems. Employees, students and also the public, should therefore have no expectation of privacy in any message or file created, sent, stored or received using the District's system. Routine inspection and/or maintenance and monitoring of district systems may lead to discovery of violations of this policy, other district policy or regulations, or the law.

The District will cooperate fully with local, state or federal officials in any investigation related to illegal activities.

Intellectual Property Rights

Users of the District System will respect the rights of others in their intellectual property, including copyrights and trademarks, and will abide by the principles of "fair use" as that term is defined in the federal Copyright Act. Improper use of copyrighted information is not permitted.

The District will accommodate and not interfere with the standard technical measures used by copyright owners to identify or protect copyrighted works.

Works created by community members are the property of the community member.

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Filtering

Consistent with applicable Federal law, the District will filter, block, or otherwise prevent the use of the District System for the transmission of any comment, request, suggestion, proposal, image or other communication which: (1) is fraudulent, illegal, pornographic, obscene, indecent, sexually explicit, discriminatory, harassing or defamatory; (2) is intended to promote or incite violence towards person or property; (3) otherwise violates the District's policies or regulations or applicable law.

No Warranty

The District makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, that the function of the services provided by or through the District's System will be error-free or without defect. The District will not be held responsible for any damage users may suffer including, but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. The District does not guarantee that community members using the District's System will not encounter offensive or otherwise inappropriate material. The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the District System.

June 2, 2009