

policy

**THE SCHOOL BOARD OF
HERNANDO COUNTY**

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1 STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

2 Technology has fundamentally altered the ways in which information is accessed,
3 communicated, and transferred in society. As a result, educators are continually
4 adapting their means and methods of instruction, and the way they approach
5 student learning to incorporate the vast, diverse, and unique resources available
6 through the Internet. The School Board provides technology resources (as defined in
7 Bylaw 0100) to support the educational and professional needs of its students and
8 staff. With respect to students, District technology resources afford them the
9 opportunity to acquire the skills and knowledge to learn effectively and live
10 productively in a digital world. The Board provides students with access to the
11 Internet for limited educational purposes only and utilizes online educational
12 services/apps to enhance the instruction delivered to its students. The District's
13 computer network and Internet system do not serve as a public access service or a
14 public forum and the Board imposes reasonable restrictions on its use consistent
15 with its limited educational purpose.

16 The Board regulates the use of District technology resources by principles consistent
17 with applicable local, State, and Federal laws, the District's educational mission and
18 articulated expectations of student conduct as delineated in the Code of Student
19 Conduct. This policy and its related administrative procedures and the Code of
20 Student Conduct govern students' use of District technology resources and students'
21 personal communication devices when they are connected to the District computer
22 network, Internet connection, and/or online educational services/apps or when
23 used while the student is on Board-owned property or at a Board-sponsored activity
24 (see Policy 5136).

25 Users are required to refrain from actions that are illegal (such as libel, slander,
26 vandalism, harassment, theft, plagiarism, inappropriate access, and the like) or
27 unkind (such as personal attacks, invasion of privacy, injurious comment, and the
28 like). Because its technology resources are not unlimited, the Board has also
29 instituted restrictions aimed at preserving these resources, such as placing limits on
30 use of bandwidth, storage space, and printers.

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1 Users have no right or expectation to privacy when using District technology
2 resources (including, but not limited to, privacy in the content of their personal files,
3 e-mails, and records of their online activity when using the District's computer
4 network and/or Internet connection).

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

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

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1 The Superintendent may temporarily or permanently unblock access to websites or
2 online educational services/apps containing appropriate material, if access to such
3 sites has been inappropriately blocked by the technology protection measures. The
4 determination of whether material is appropriate or inappropriate shall be based on
5 the content of the material and the intended use of the material, not on the
6 protection actions of the technology protection measures.

7 Parents are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services
8 and/or resources on the Internet that the Board has not authorized for educational
9 purposes. In fact, it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access
10 through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their
11 parents may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable, or controversial. Parents of
12 minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children
13 should follow when using the Internet.

14 Pursuant to Federal law, students shall receive education about the following:

- 15 A. safety and security while using e-mail, chat rooms, social media,
16 and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- 17 B. the dangers inherent with the online disclosure of personally
18 identifiable information;
- 19 C. the consequences of unauthorized access (e.g., "hacking",
20 "harvesting", "digital piracy", "data mining", etc.), cyberbullying, and
21 other unlawful or inappropriate activities by students online; and,
- 22 D. unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally
23 identifiable information regarding minors.

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

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

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

14 Students are responsible for good behavior when using District technology
15 resources - i.e., behavior comparable to that expected of students when they are in
16 classrooms, school hallways, and other school premises and school sponsored
17 events. Communications on the Internet are often public in nature. General school
18 rules for behavior and communication apply. The Board does not approve any use
19 of its technology resources that is not authorized by or conducted strictly in
20 compliance with this policy and its accompanying procedures.

21 Students may only use District technology resources to access or use social media if
22 it is done for educational purposes in accordance with their teacher's approved plan
23 for such use.

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1 Users who disregard this policy and its accompanying procedures may have their
2 use privileges suspended or revoked, and disciplinary action taken against them.
3 Users are personally responsible and liable, both civilly and criminally, for uses of
4 District technology resources that are not authorized by this policy and its
5 accompanying procedures.

6 F.S. 1001.43, 1001.51
7 P.L. 106-554, Children's Internet Protection Act of 2000
8 47 U.S.C. 254(h),(1), Communications Act of 1934, as amended (2003)
9 20 U.S.C. 6801 et seq., Part F, Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as
10 amended (2003)
11 20 U.S.C. 6777 (2003), 20 U.S.C. 9134 (2003)
12 18 U.S.C. 2256
13 18 U.S.C. 1460
14 18 U.S.C. 2246
15 47 C.F.R. 54.500, 54.501, 54.502, 54.503, 54.504, 54.505, 54.506, 54.507, 54.508
16 47 C.F.R. 54.509, 54.511, 54.513, 54.514, 54.515, 54.516, 54.517, 54.518, 54.519
17 47 C.F.R. 54.520, 54.521, 54.522, 54.523

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