

ELECTRONIC ACCESS REGULATION AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

The following rules and regulations govern the use of District technology. This includes computers, software, network resources, and access to the internet, as well as any third-party cloud services which are maintained by, contracted for, or otherwise used at the direction of the District, e.g., Office 365. (*collectively “the network”*)

These rules and regulations apply whether access to Islip network resources takes place from within the District or outside the District, and whether the resources being accessed are hosted within the District or elsewhere. See section XIII for additional information pertaining to remote access.

I. Administration

- The Superintendent of Schools will designate the Network & Systems Coordinator to oversee the network.
- The Network & Systems Coordinator will:
 - Monitor and examine all network activities, as appropriate, to enforce proper use of the network.
 - Ensure that all files and software are scanned for computer viruses.
 - Review the compatibility and technical requirements of, and approve all software whether onsite or web-based prior to purchase.
- The Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction or designee will:
 - Disseminate these rules and regulations at the building level with all network users.
 - Provide employee training for proper use of the network and ensure that staff provides similar instruction to their students, which will include disseminating copies of these rules and regulations. Said training will include the education of minors regarding appropriate online behavior, including interacting with individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms, and cyber-bullying awareness and response.
 - Students and staff will receive training which will include an overview of potential consequences for violations of District policies related to electronic access and internet safety.
- All parental consent forms and student network-use agreements will be kept on file in the principal’s office of the respective school or electronically within the District’s student information system.
- Staff members are responsible for teaching proper techniques and standards for participation, guiding access to appropriate sections of the network, and assuring that users understand that if they misuse the network, they may lose their access privilege. Particular concerns include network security, privacy, especially as it pertains to social networking sites, copyright infringement, E-Mail etiquette, computer viruses and spyware, and proper use of the internet and other network resources.
- All users will be provided with individual user accounts. The person in whose name the account is issued is responsible at all times for its proper use and

security. Care must be taken to choose passwords which cannot be easily guessed. Passwords are not to be shared with anyone and must comply with requirements enforced by the network.

II. Network Access

The following people are entitled to use the network for authorized purposes provided they have agreed in writing to (and/or had a parent or guardian agree in writing to) these policies:

- All employees of the District for school business;
- All District students, when under direct adult supervision, with signed parental permission slips;
- Others working in K-12 public education who request use of the network. These requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and will be granted as needs and resources permit by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.
- Outside vendors, trainers, or contractors brought in at the District's request, and solely for District-related business.

In order to provide appropriate security for the network, users may be required to enroll in two-factor authentication (2FA); this entails using both a password and an additional form of identification such as a one-time code to verify identity.

In the event a user elects to use a personal device (such as a cell phone) to receive one-time codes for 2FA, the device remains the property of and under the control of the user at all times. The District accepts no responsibility for the functionality of the device nor any costs that may be incurred by the user; additionally, no support can be provided for the device, nor does the use of the device imply any obligation on the District's part to provide network access to it. Using a personal device to receive 2FA codes does not grant the District any access to the device or any content on it whatsoever.

If a user does not want to use a personal device for 2FA, other verification methods are available.

III. Acceptable Use and Conduct

Acceptable uses of the network are activities that support learning and teaching; inappropriate matter on the internet is prohibited. Network users are encouraged to develop uses which meet their educational needs and which take advantage of the network's functions such as E-Mail, access to the internet, and other online resources.

Limited personal use of the District's computer system is permitted as long as it does not interfere with the discharge of an individual's job responsibilities and has

no discernible cost to the District. Such use will be personal and not commercial in nature and will not fall under any of the prohibited uses.

Islip Public Schools has taken measures to restrict both adults and minors from accessing materials that may be considered obscene, pornographic, or in the case of minors, harmful to them. The District utilizes a content filtering system which is updated regularly and automatically blocks access to undesirable web sites in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Content may be explicitly blocked or permitted with or without notice at the discretion of the Network & Systems Coordinator as necessary. All web traffic is logged and may be monitored both in real-time and historically to detect inappropriate uses.

IV. Unacceptable Activity and Uses

Unacceptable uses of the network include, but are not limited to:

- Using profanity, obscenity, or other language which may be offensive to another user;
- Using defamatory, discriminating, or threatening language;
- Cyber-bullying;
- Using the network for financial or commercial gain;
- Sharing content that constitutes advertising either directly or indirectly for a third party unrelated to School District operations;
- Re-posting personal communications without the author's prior consent;
- Attempting to deliberately degrade or disrupt the computer system, which will be viewed as criminal activity under applicable state and federal law;
- Downloading, storing or printing files or messages that are pornographic, profane, obscene, or that use language that offends or tends to degrade others;
- Spreading computer viruses or spyware deliberately;
- Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts;
- Vandalizing the data of another user or District equipment or materials;
- Creating, running, or installing programs that waste system resources, including but not limited to spyware, adware, and outdated or incompatible applications;
- Gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities;
- Invading the privacy of individuals (such as harassing, embarrassing, humiliating);
- Using an account owned by another user;
- Posting anonymous messages;
- Posting personal information when not related to a school purpose or activity, such as address, telephone number or school address;
- Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities; which will be viewed as criminal activity under applicable state and federal law;

- Using network features such as chat rooms, peer-to-peer file transfer utilities, and instant message (IM) services, unless expressly permitted by the Network & Systems Coordinator;
- Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors;
- Installing personal software on the District's computers under any circumstances; only software licensed for use by the District may be installed on District computers, and must only be installed by the IT department following a properly approved software installation request;
- In limited circumstances, staff may be given permission to use a personal iCloud / iTunes account on a District-owned Apple IOS device; in this case, software purchased by the user may be used on the District's device so long as doing so does not violate the software license to which the user agreed when purchasing the application. It is understood that licenses purchased by the user on a personal account remain the property of the user, however, care should be taken to not create excessive workflow dependency on applications that are not owned by the District. The District reserves the right to remove this permission at any time and for any reason.
- Using personal devices or peripherals on the District's computers and/or network without the permission of the IT department;
- Saving data in any location other than those designated by the IT department;
- Attempting to bypass the District's security measures or content filtering in any manner;
- Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked; and
- Using the network in a fashion inconsistent with directions from teachers and other staff and generally accepted network etiquette.

Network users identifying a security problem on the District's network must immediately notify the appropriate teacher, administrator and/or the Network & Systems Coordinator. Under no circumstance should the user demonstrate the problem to anyone other than to the District official or employee being notified.

V. Social Networking

The growth of social networking sites creates a unique challenge in the school environment. These types of sites often bridge a user's personal and professional life and thus put the user at significant risk of disclosing information or inadvertently acting in a fashion that is inappropriate in a school setting.

All staff are to be mindful of professionalism when posting on social medial sites, as postings could impact your professional reputation and the reputation of the School District.

Personal student information is not to be shared on social networking sites under any circumstances.

The District prohibits staff from “friending” or “following” any current student regardless of age, or any former student under the age of 18 other than a relative.

VI. Use of Personal Devices (Bring Your Own Device – “BYOD”)

Under certain circumstances, certain users may be afforded the opportunity to connect their personal devices to a wireless network designated for this purpose. If a user elects to do so, such use is subject to the following:

- All regulations detailed elsewhere in this policy remain in full force on any BYOD network;
- No support will be provided for personal devices; there is no guarantee a given device will function on the network;
- The ability to connect may be restricted (either by policy or by technical limitations) to those devices which are kept up to date with supported operating systems, security patches and antivirus; in this event any efforts to remediate these issues are the sole responsibility of the device owner;
- Users may be required to validate their identity to the network at a regular interval to verify their permission to use the system;
- Any BYOD network made available should be assumed to be insecure, and users should take appropriate measures to protect their devices from other devices sharing the network;
- In the event any BYOD network creates a security or performance issue with the District’s “production” network, or as necessary for network maintenance or upgrades, it may be temporarily disabled without notice;
- The availability of any BYOD network is provided at the discretion of the District and may be terminated at any time;
- The user’s rights to access a BYOD network may be terminated at any time for any violation of District policy or if their device(s) create a disruption in service to other users or to the network as a whole;
- The use of a BYOD network does not eliminate the District’s legal obligation to comply with CIPA (see Section XII), and as such all internet access on a BYOD network remains filtered; users may be required to validate their identity to the content filtering system in order to receive the appropriate filtering policy;
- Any other restrictions necessary to ensure the safety, security, and reliability of the District’s network, as determined by the Network & Systems Coordinator; these may be changed at any time, for any reason, and without notice.

VII. Electronic Publications

Users will be allowed to produce materials for electronic publication on the internet. Staff supervisor of user will monitor these materials to ensure compliance with content standards. The content of materials is constrained by the following restrictions:

- Student information and/or work used for electronic publication on the internet will correspond to the level of parental consent on the student's Parental Consent Form.
- No text, image, movie or sound that contains pornography, profanity, obscenity or language that offends or tends to degrade others will be allowed.

VIII. *No Privacy Guarantee*

It should be understood that use of the District's network is not private and that network use, including the content of E-Mail sent or received, may be monitored at any time and without notice. The District reserves and may exercise the right to monitor, access, retrieve, or delete any data stored in, created, received, or sent over the District's network and/or E-Mail system from any device, for any reason, without permission, and with or without cause.

If an authorized user of the District's E-Mail system would like to access e-mail from outside the District, there are two methods that may be used:

- Visit [Office365 \(https://portal.office.com\)](https://portal.office.com) from any compatible web browser and select the Outlook tile, *or*
- From your smartphone or tablet, via ActivSync or similar "push" technologies; this includes the native mail application on most devices as well as the Outlook "app"

Regardless of how a personal device is connected to or otherwise used to access the District's email system (or other District-owned systems such as Infinite Campus), the District **does not have the ability** to access any photos, contacts, text messages, or other personal data on said device, and will not use any such abilities to do so should they become available in the future. All personal data remains the property of the device's owner and the District will respect the privacy of this personal data.

When an authorized user elects to use a mobile e-mail app to connect to the District's e-mail system, the device establishes and maintains an always-on connection to the District's e-mail system, and as such may become subject to District policies concerning mobile devices.

It is important to note that when a device is connected to the District's e-mail system *in this specific fashion*, the device may download and store data which may be confidential and which the District has a legal obligation to protect. In the event a personal device connected in this fashion is lost, cannot be retrieved, and cannot be locked, wiped, or otherwise secured by the device's owner, the District retains the right to remotely wipe the device if there is reason to believe the device may contain information which the District has a legal obligation to protect.

The District will not remotely wipe a device without first notifying the device's owner and providing a reasonable opportunity for the owner to retrieve or otherwise secure the device.

If it is determined a remote device wipe is necessary, the District's e-mail system will be used to issue a command to wipe only District data from the device. Different devices and software versions may, however, respond to this wipe command differently, and thus the District cannot guarantee that additional data will not be removed. It is possible the user may lose personal content such as contacts and photos; under no circumstances will the District be liable for any such loss. It is always advisable to backup personal devices, regardless of the use of the District's e-mail system.

Users who may be uncomfortable with the above provisions pertaining to personal devices may still access District e-mail from personal devices by logging on to Office365 via a web browser and selecting the Outlook tile. Connecting to this e-mail system via the web does *not* create an always-on connection and does *not* subject the device to the provisions outlined above.

Access permissions may be revoked at any time and with or without cause at the discretion of the Network and Systems Coordinator. Additionally, no support will be provided for devices which are not owned by the District.

IX. Sanctions

All users of the District's computer network and equipment are required to comply with the District's policy and regulations governing the use thereof.

In addition, illegal activities are strictly prohibited. Any information pertaining to or implicating illegal activity will be reported to the proper authorities. Transmission of any material in violation of any federal, state, and/or local law or regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to material protected by copyright, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. Users must respect all intellectual and property rights and laws.

X. Damages

Care should be taken when using School District computers and other electronic devices. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) could be financially responsible for any damage to the computer/device.

XI. District Limitation of Liability

The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing hereunder. The District will not be responsible for any damages that a person may suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays,

non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruption caused by the District's negligence or the individual's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the internet is at the individual's risk. The Islip School District does not assume responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

In no event will the District be liable for any indirect, special, or consequential damages or loss of profits arising out of or related to this agreement, the performance or breach thereof, or the accuracy or correctness of data or the information contained herein, even if the District has been advised of the possibility thereof.

In no event will the District be liable for any damages resulting from or related to any failure or delay of the District in providing access under this Agreement or to the accuracy or correctness of the data or the information contained herein.

XII. Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

In December 2000, Congress passed the Children's Internet Protection Act. This act outlines requirements for any K-12 public school that receives funding under the E-Rate program for telecommunication services, internet access, and/or any direct costs associated with internet access.

Under this legislation, schools (including the school board) and libraries must:

- Create an internet safety policy and distribute it to their school community;
- Make this policy available to the FCC for review on request;
- Provide reasonable public notice and hold at least one public hearing or meeting to address the proposed or revised internet safety policy;
- Retain internet safety policies for a period of five years after the funding year the policy was relied upon to obtain the E-Rate funding
- Implement technology protection measures to prevent adults and minors from accessing inappropriate material, including visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, or, with respect to the use of the computers by minors, harmful to minors.

XIII. Remote Access to District Resources

The modern computing environment includes both resources hosted within the District and others hosted by third parties in the "cloud." Additionally, remote work, including work-from-home, has blurred the line between on-site and off-site work. For these reasons, the District makes no distinction between those activities originating from within the District and those originating from outside the District as they pertain to the policies herein. Users are expected to comply with all District network use policies regardless of their location, and regardless of the remote access technology used.

Third parties not employed by the District are required to sign the “INDIVIDUAL CONFIDENTIALITY AND REMOTE ACCESS AGREEMENT” in addition to the “EMPLOYEE AGREEMENT FOR ELECTRONIC ACCESS REGULATION” below.

Adoption Date: October 18, 2005
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