

COMPUTER SECURITY, E-MAIL AND INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS

The District has established this policy with regard to access and disclosure of electronic data composed, stored, sent, or received by employees using the District computer system. This policy is designed to protect the safety and security of the District's computer systems including E-mail and internet use.

1. The computer hardware system, software and E-mail system are owned by the District, and all messages or data composed, stored, sent, or received using the system are and remain the private property of the District. They are not the property of the employee. The District reserves, and intends to exercise without prior notice, the right to read, review, audit, intercept, access or disclose any and all information.
2. District technology should be used for educational purposes only during school time, while occasional personal use of the District's network is acceptable on personal time.
3. The electronic mail system may not be used to solicit or proselytize for commercial ventures, religious or political causes.
4. The District prohibits discriminatory, harassing, or offensive materials in any form of media. Among those which are considered offensive are any messages which contain sexual implications, racial slurs, gender-specific comments, or any other comments that offensively address someone's age, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, national origin, or disability.
5. The electronic mail system shall not be used to send (upload) or receive (download) copyrighted materials, trade secrets, proprietary financial information, or similar materials without prior authorization. Any communications created, sent, or retrieved using e-mail may be read by individuals other than the intended recipient.
6. The confidentiality of any message or data should not be assumed. Even when a message is erased, it is still possible to retrieve and read that message. The use of passwords for security does not guarantee confidentiality, or that the District will not retrieve it.
7. Notwithstanding the District's right to retrieve and monitor any E-mail messages, such messages should be treated as confidential by other employees and accessed only by the intended recipient. Employees are not authorized to retrieve or read any E-mail that is not sent to them, without authorization. Any exception to this policy must receive prior approval by the Superintendent or designee.
8. Any employee who violates this policy or uses the computer system or electronic mail system for improper purposes shall be subject to discipline up to and including discharge.
9. The District has the authority to terminate or limit access to any program at any time.

10. Personal devices can be used on the system subject to authorization by administration.

11. The District will take all necessary measures to maintain student privacy relative to the District's website, online information and storage of student personally identifiable information, as required by state and federal law.

Legal Reference:

RSA 194:3-d, School District Computer Networks

RSA 189:68-a, Student Online Personal Information

Policy Adoption & Revision History:

First Reading: 04/10/07

Board Approval: 05/08/07

Board Approval of Revision: 11/09/20