

## **Mahomet-Seymour Technology Acceptable Use Policy**

The Mahomet-Seymour School District promotes the use and development of electronic networked information resources as a means to support learning and to enhance instruction. The intent of this policy is to support education in C.U.S.D. #3 by providing access to technology and the opportunity to access resources from around the world. Expanding technologies that take students beyond our four walls provide tremendous new opportunities for enhancing, extending and rethinking the learning process.

Because access to the Internet provides connections to other computer systems located all over the world, users (and parents of users) must understand that neither the school or Mahomet-Seymour School District control the content of the information available on these other systems. Some of the information available is controversial and, sometimes, offensive. C.U.S.D. #3 does not condone the use of such materials. District employees, students, and parents of students must be aware that access to the Internet will be withdrawn from users who do not respect the rights of others or who do not follow the rules and regulations established by the school and the Board of Education.

Users are responsible for their behavior and any materials, which they view, download, and/or produce. All users must conduct themselves as responsible individuals and socially responsible citizens. Users need to consider the source of any information they obtain through technology and how valid it may be.

It is the general policy that computers are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Failure to adhere to the policy and its guidelines will result in the revocation of the user's access privilege. The individual who logs onto a computer is responsible for all activities in that account. Therefore, users should not share passwords and should change passwords frequently.

The School District reserves the right to log computer use and to monitor fileserver space utilization by users while respecting the privacy of the user accounts. In the case where misuse is suspected, the District reserves the right to examine the user's questionable files and materials. No technology is guaranteed to be error-free and totally dependable. The District cannot be held liable for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable due to technical, or other, difficulties. The District cannot be held accountable for information that is retrieved through technology.

The use of technology is both a right and a privilege that carries with it responsibilities. The technology user is expected to abide by district policies and rules of behavior. These guidelines are provided here so that users are aware of the responsibilities that the use of technology places upon them. Guidelines for the use of technology described in this following policy are not all-inclusive. A user who commits an act of misconduct, which is not specified, may also be subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary actions are consistent with district and school policies governing behavior. Illegal activities involving technology may also result in referral to law enforcement authorities.

### **Technology users will:**

- Use appropriate language.
- Avoid offensive or inflammatory speech.
- Adhere to rules of copyright and assume that any software that they did not create is copyrighted (unless it is labeled "shareware" or "public domain").
- Not reveal their personal address or phone number, or those of other users.
- Note that e-mail is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have authorized access to mail; others may have access.
- Use technology only for legal activities.
- Be responsible at all times for the proper use of their access privileges and for avoiding impersonation, anonymity, or unauthorized sharing of security measures.
- Take responsibility for any activities using technology that is borrowed by them or under their account or password.
- Maintain the integrity of technological resources from potentially damaging messages, physical abuse, or viruses.
- Respect the right of others to use equipment and therefore not tie up the equipment with non-school activities.
- Abide by the policies and procedures of networks and systems linked by technology.
- Protect the privacy of other users and the integrity of the system by avoiding misuse of passwords, others' files, equipment, and programs.
- Handle computers, systems, or networks properly.

### **Student Internet Access:**

Your student may be allowed access to the Internet. If you do not wish your student to have Internet access, please notify the school office at any time during the school year.