

## **Instruction**

### **STUDENT INTERNET USE**

**6141.321(a)**

The Fairfield Public Schools provides a variety of District Technology Resources in support of our instructional and administrative programs to ensure that our students become digital citizens proficient in information technology competencies essential for success in the 21st century. These District Technology Resources enhance learning and improve communication within our local and global communities. The advantages of having access to these District Technology Resources exceed a potential disadvantage. However, access to them is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, it is incumbent upon all members of the school community to use District Technology Resources responsibly, ethically, and with respect for the work of others.

#### **I. DEFINITIONS**

##### **A. District Technology Resources**

For the purposes of this policy, "District Technology Resources" refers to the district-owned, operated, managed, or offered:

- Computers and instructional technologies
- Communications and data management systems
- Networks and access to the Internet
- Software, hardware, and programs
- Electronic media information, devices, and systems
- Cell phones, smartphones, tablets, laptops, and desktop computers
- Storage devices including memory sticks and external drives
- Any other technological resources that can receive, transmit, and/or store digital information
- Any other technological resources owned and/or used by the District and accessible by students

##### **B. Privately-Owned Technological Devices**

For the purposes of this policy, "Privately-Owned Technological Devices" refers to privately-owned wireless, portable electronic hand-held equipment used for word processing, wireless internet access, image capture and recording, sound recording, information transmission and receiving, data storage, and more. These devices include but are not limited to:

- Desktop computers
- Personal computing devices
- Cellular phones

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- Smartphones
- Smartwatches and other wearables
- Network access devices
- Tablets
- Laptops
- Personal gaming systems
- Bluetooth speakers
- Wired or wireless earbuds
- Wired or wireless headphones
- E-readers
- Any device equipped with a SIM card slot or eSIM functionality
- Other electronic signaling devices

## **II. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **A. Purpose and Scope**

1. The District policies are intended to promote the most effective, safe, productive, and instructionally sound uses of District Technology Resources, information, and communication tools.
2. The District makes a good faith effort to protect its students from exposure to internet materials that are harmful, inappropriate, or explicit.
3. The District employs a system of internet content filtering controls that meet federal standards established by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

### **B. Training and Access**

The District will provide training and procedures that encourage the widest possible access to District Technology Resources by students, staff, and patrons while establishing reasonable controls for the lawful, efficient, and appropriate use and management of the system.

### **C. Privilege and Responsibility**

1. Use of District Technology Resources is a privilege and not a right.
2. Each student user has the responsibility to respect every other person in our community and on the Internet.
3. All students are expected to follow the guidelines, procedures, and specific limitations outlined in the Acceptable Use Guidelines and Agreement (6141.321AR).

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#### **III. ACCEPTABLE USE STANDARDS**

##### **A. Required Uses**

1. District Technology Resources and Privately-Owned Technological Devices may only be used in a manner that is consistent with the District's educational objectives, mission, and curriculum.
2. Students will utilize appropriate online behavior and refrain from cyber-bullying behavior.
3. Materials published via electronic publication must be for educational purposes.
4. Teachers may designate specific device types and screen time usage for students, as necessary for coursework.

##### **B. Prohibited Uses**

###### **1. Legal Violations**

- Receipt, transmission and/or storage of any material in violation of District or administrative regulations, rules or policies, and/or any local, federal or state law;
- This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, licensed material and threatening, harassing, or obscene material.

###### **2. Content Violations**

- Intentional or unintentional use of District Technology Resources to access or process proxy sites, pornographic or other inappropriate material, explicit text or files, or files dangerous to the integrity of the network and/or instructional resources.

###### **3. Commercial Activities**

- Use of District Technology Resources for commercial activities, or for solicitation not approved by the District.

#### **IV. PRIVACY AND MONITORING**

##### **A. No Expectation of Privacy**

1. Files stored on District Technology Resources are the property of the District and may be inspected at any time.
2. District Technology Resources are subject to search at any time.
3. Password systems implemented by the District are designed solely to provide system security from unauthorized users, not to provide privacy to the individual student.

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#### **B. Monitoring**

School administrators, teachers, and staff may monitor materials to ensure compliance with curriculum content standards.

## **V. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND LIABILITY**

### **A. Financial Responsibility**

Students and parent/guardian may be held personally and financially responsible for malicious or intentional damage done to network software, data, user accounts, hardware, and/or unauthorized costs incurred.

### **B. Compliance**

Students must comply with all provisions of this policy when using:

1. District Technology Resources; or
2. Privately-Owned Technological Devices on school property or during school-sponsored or school-related activities.

## **VI. ENFORCEMENT AND DISCIPLINE**

### **A. Disciplinary Actions**

Violating this policy, District and/or administrative policies, rules or regulations, or state or federal laws may result in:

1. Temporary or permanent ban on student use of District Technology Resources;
2. Prohibition on use of Privately-Owned Technological Devices on school property or during school-sponsored or school-related activities;
3. Suspension or dismissal from school; and/or
4. Legal action.

### **B. Right to Refuse Access**

Fairfield Public Schools reserves the right to refuse access to District Technology Resources to any student.

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**C. Cooperation with Law Enforcement**

The District will cooperate with law enforcement officers in investigations related to illegal activities conducted with District Technology Resources or Privately-Owned Technological Devices.

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes  
53a-182b Harassment in the first degree: class d felony (as amended by PA 95-143)  
  
Federal Law  
RSA 194:3-d, 47U.S.C. Section 254, Children's Internet Protection Act

Adopted: 8/27/2004  
Revised and Adopted: 1/29/2013  
Revised and Adopted: 10/28/2025