

# Student and Parent Agreement for the Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Communications System

Students may be given access to the District's Electronic Communications System for educational purposes. **The Electronic Communications System is defined as the District's network, servers, computer workstations, telephones, peripherals, applications, databases, library catalog, online resources, Internet access, e-mail, online class activities and any other technology designated for use by the District for students.**

With this educational opportunity comes responsibility. It is important that students and parents read the Northside ISD Administrative Regulation for Acceptable Use (TEC-01) and this agreement form, and then ask any questions if you need help understanding them. The Northside ISD Administrative Regulation for Acceptable Use (TEC-01) will apply to personal laptops and the use of personal laptops brought to school. Inappropriate system use of the District's Electronic Communications System will result in the consequences below, including loss of the privilege to use this educational tool.

**Please acknowledge receipt and understanding of these items found in Addendum #1 by completing and returning the Notice of Acknowledgement and Agreement Form in the back of this handbook. This form must be received before a student can be given access to the system.**

Please note that Internet access is part of the District's Electronic Communications System. The Internet is a network of many types of communication and information networks, which are used frequently in classroom assignments and include access to library materials and purchased online databases. Some material accessible via the Internet may contain content that is illegal, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to students (or their parents). It is possible for students to access (accidentally or otherwise) these areas of content. While the District uses filtering technology and protection measures to restrict access to such material, it is not possible to absolutely prevent such access. It will be each student's responsibility to follow the rules for appropriate and acceptable use.

## SOME RULES FOR APPROPRIATE USE

- Students must only open, view, modify, and delete their own computer files, unless they have specific permission from a teacher or staff member to do otherwise.
- Internet use at school must be primarily related to school assignments and projects.
- Students may be assigned individual accounts to District resources and must use only those accounts and passwords that they have been granted permission by the District to use. All account activity should be for educational purposes only.
- Students are responsible at all times for their use of the District's Electronic Communications System and must assume personal responsibility to behave ethically and responsibly, even when technology provides them the freedom to do otherwise.

## INAPPROPRIATE USES

- Using the District's Electronic Communications System for illegal purposes (e.g. gambling, pornography, computer hacking).
- Disabling, bypassing, or attempting to disable or bypass any system monitoring, filtering or other security measures.
- Sharing your username and password with others, borrowing someone else's username (i.e. teacher or student), password or account access.
- Purposefully opening, viewing, using, or deleting files belonging to another system user without permission.
- Electronically posting personal information about yourself or others (i.e., addresses, phone numbers, pictures).
- Downloading or plagiarizing copyrighted information without permission from the copyright holder.
- Intentionally introducing a virus or other malicious programs onto the District's system.
- Electronically posting messages or accessing materials that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal.
- Wasting or abusing school resources through **unauthorized** system use (e.g. online gaming, Internet radio, downloading music, watching videos, participating in chat rooms, checking personal email, etc.).
- Gaining unauthorized access to restricted information or network resources.

## PERSONAL WIRELESS LAPTOPS

Personal laptops will be provided **filtered access to the Internet** as well as access to any web-based student applications (e.g., DiscoveryStreaming, Student Storage) that would normally be accessible to students from home. Laptops are valuable devices

that can be damaged. **The District is not responsible for the loss or theft of a personal laptop, nor for damage, nor unauthorized access to the device nor the data that resides therein.** In addition:

- The student must take full responsibility for setting up and maintaining their personal laptop, charging it, etc. The District will not provide technical support for these devices.
- When laptops are not in the student's possession, they must be secured by the student. Laptops must never be left unattended. Laptops may not be left at school over vacations. Laptops must go home with students daily.
- The playing of games, music, or other entertainment on the laptop is prohibited at school unless approved by the teacher. Electronic communication such as e-mail, instant messaging, chat, blogs, etc are also prohibited at school unless an approved and monitored electronic communication application is being used for educational purposes by the teacher.
- Laptop sound must be turned off except when it is being used as part of a class.
- Student selection of appropriate, tasteful screensavers and wallpaper is expected.
- Classroom teachers will establish standards for laptop use in their respective classrooms; however, it is school policy that students are not allowed to access the Internet unless supervised by a teacher or staff member.
- The District may examine the laptop and search its contents, if there is a reason to believe that school policies, regulations, or guidelines have been violated.
- All students with personal wireless devices must use the District provided wireless which is filtered according to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements. Students are not to use non-District wireless service providers while on District property,
- Personal laptops are not to be connected to the wired network. They are only authorized for connectivity on the District's public wireless network called NISD WiFi.
- If a student uses a personal laptop in an inappropriate manner, they will lose their privilege of bringing a personal laptop to school. Additional consequences may be imposed based on the Acceptable Use Regulation TEC-01 and the Student Conduct Code.

#### **CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE USE**

- Suspension of access to the District's Electronic Communications System;
- Revocation of the District's Electronic Communications System account(s); and/or
- Other appropriate disciplinary or legal action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable laws.

NOTE: The student agreement to abide by these guidelines must be renewed each academic year. Also, District Policies and Administrative Regulations are included as an addendum to all handbooks for your review.

