Ennis ISD

Student/Parent Acceptable Use

We live in a changing world, where we have more and faster access to information than ever before. Staff and students now can be both consumers and producers of information; and Ennis ISD strives to be a 21st Century district taking advantage of as many new technologies and new methods of communication as possible that are now available to everyone.

The District provides an array of technology resources for staff and student use. With access to these new technologies, users will have opportunities to learn and create like never before, but with those opportunities do come new responsibilities. This agreement outlines appropriate use and prohibited activities when using technology resources.

Every user is expected to follow all guidelines stated below, as well as those given orally by the staff, and to demonstrate good digital citizenship and ethical online behavior at all times.

In accepting this agreement, users acknowledge the following rules and conditions:
As a District student, I understand that my school network and email accounts are owned by the District and are not private. Ennis ISD has the right to access my information at any time. This includes, but is not limited to, email transmission, online history, and computer files.

GOVERNMENT LAWS:
I will use computers in conformity with laws of the United States and the State of Texas, and the local policies of the Ennis I.S.D. School Board. Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Criminal Acts – These include, but are not limited to, "hacking" or attempting to access computer systems without authorization, harassing email, cyberbullying, cyberstalking, child pornography, vandalism, and/or unauthorized tampering with computer systems. (A list of Federal statutes from the United States Department of Justice is below as Appendix A).
2. Libel Laws - Publicly defaming people through the published material on the internet, email, etc…
3. Copyright Violations - Copying, selling or distributing copyrighted material without the express written permission of the author or publisher (users should assume that all materials available on the Internet are protected by copyright), engaging in plagiarism (using other's words or ideas as your own).

NETIQUETTE and RESPONSIBLE USE:

1. I understand that passwords are private. I will not allow others to use my account name and password, or try to use that of others. I will report any suspected breach of security to my teacher.
2. I will be polite and use appropriate language in my email messages, virtual learning environments, online postings, and other digital communications with others. I will refrain from using profanity, vulgarities or any other inappropriate language as determined by school administrators.
3. I will use email and other means of communications (e.g. blogs, wikis, podcasting, chat, instant-messaging, discussion boards, virtual learning environments, etc.) responsibly. I will not use computers, handheld computers, digital audio players, cell phones, personal digital devices or the Internet to send or post hate or harassing mail, pornography, make discriminatory or derogatory remarks about others, or engage in bullying, harassment, or other antisocial behaviors.
4. I understand that masquerading, spoofing, or pretending to be someone else is forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, sending out e-mail, creating accounts, or posting messages or other online content (e.g. text, images, audio or video) in someone else's name as a joke.
5. I will use technology resources responsibly. I will not retrieve, save, or display hate-based, offensive or sexually explicit material using any of EISD computer resources. I am responsible for not pursuing material that could be considered offensive. I understand that I am to notify an adult immediately if by accident I encounter materials which violate appropriate use.

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6. I will use technology resources productively and responsibly for school-related purposes. I will avoid using any technology resource in such a way that would disrupt the activities of other users.
7. I will refrain from attempting to bypass, or circumvent, security settings or Internet filters, or interfere with the operation of the network by installing illegal or personal hardware, software, or web-based services not approved by the District Technology Department.
8. I understand that vandalism is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to modifying or destroying equipment, programs, files, or settings on any computer or other technology resource.
9. I understand that I am responsible for reasonable daily care of the equipment made available by the district. A list of responsibilities for computer equipment care is maintained in the Student and Faculty Handbooks.
10. I will keep my home directories (i.e. H:Drive, Google Drive, and/or other personal directories), email, etc. cleaned of items I no longer need.
11. I understand that work created using district equipment remains the property of Ennis I.S.D.
12. I will respect the intellectual property of other users and information providers. I will obey copyright guidelines. I will not plagiarize or use other's work without proper citation and permission.
13. I will refrain from the use of or access of files, software, or other resources owned by others without the owner's permission. I will use only those school network directories and other resources that are designated for my use or for the purpose designated by my teacher.
14. I will not install any personal computer programs on school computers.
15. I will follow all guidelines set forth by the District and/or my teachers when publishing schoolwork online (e.g. to a website, blog, wiki, discussion board, podcasting or video site).
16. I understand the Internet is a source for information that is both true and false; and that the school is not responsible for inaccurate information obtained from the Internet.
17. I understand that District administrators will deem what conduct is inappropriate use if such conduct is not specified in this agreement.
18. I agree to abide by all Internet safety guidelines that are provided by the school and to complete all assignments related to Internet safety.
19. I am aware that the use of electronic mobile communication devices (smartphones, etc) is prohibited without permission during the school day.

Disclaimers

EISD cannot guarantee that computers or networks will be error free or that services will go uninterrupted. Therefore, the District shall not be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages, including but not limited to, lost data or information sustained or incurred in connection with the use, operation, or inability to use the system. The District will not be responsible for any financial obligations that occur through the unauthorized use of the system.

All of the above policies and rules for acceptable use are intended to make maximum use of equipment and materials while allowing for a minimum of technical and mechanical administration. If there is any question concerning any of these policies or rules, please contact the EISD Superintendent of Schools, the Campus Principal, or the EISD Director of Technology

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Acceptable Use Policy provides information and guidelines to ensure your child is a safe and responsible user of EISD technology resources. Please read and discuss the content with your child so that everyone has a clear understanding of expectations, behavior and consequences associated with E.I.S.D. technology use.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY:
I have read, understand, and will abide by the E.I.S.D. Acceptable Use Policy. Should I commit a violation, I understand that consequences of my actions could include suspension of computer privileges, disciplinary action, and/or referral to law enforcement.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITY:
As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that computer access is provided for educational purposes in keeping with the academic goals of the District, and that student use for any other purpose is inappropriate. I recognize it is impossible for the District to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired on the school network. I understand that children's computer activities at home should be supervised as they can affect the academic environment at school.

PUBLISHING STUDENT PHOTOS AND WORK ON THE INTERNET:
Ennis I.S.D. is committed to protecting the privacy and safety of all students. There are times when teachers and administrators feel it is appropriate to recognize students and their work in a public forum. Examples include publishing a team roster on a school's web page, exhibiting student work on the web, publishing multimedia presentations (i.e. videos, podcasts, power points, etc.) and inviting local media to report on school events. Ennis I.S.D. takes every precaution to ensure that such disclosure is limited to appropriate school related events and handled in a responsible and ethical manner.