ACCEPABLE USE OF STUDENT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Polaris Career Center shall make available to students such information technology facilities as it decides are appropriate to further its educational mission. Polaris’ information technology facilities consist of numerous components including computer hardware, multimedia hardware, video equipment, computer software, documentation, communications support, on-line account administration, support services, internet access and instructional materials. This policy applies whenever one or more students utilize Polaris’ information technology facilities alone or in combination with other information technology facilities. All technology resources are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner. Failure to adhere to this acceptable Use Policy may result in the revocation of the user’s access privilege.

Students may only use Polaris’ information technology facilities for the following acceptable uses:
1. Learning activities facilitating Board instructional objectives.
2. Research supporting educational or research programs sponsored by Polaris Career Center.
3. Communications between faculty, staff, students and others containing messages or information, the content of which is not in conflict with the school district policy, rules and regulations.

Students may not use Polaris’ information technology facilities for unacceptable uses specifically including, but not limited to, the following:
1. Infringing on the rights or liberties of others, including unauthorized discloser, use and dissemination of personal information.
2. Illegal or criminal use of any kind.
3. Utilization involving communications, materials, information, data or images reasonably regarded as obscene, pornographic, threatening, abusive, harassing, discriminatory, intended to intimidate or bully other users, or in violation of or inconsistent with any other board policy.
4. Accessing, viewing, printing, storing, transmitting, disseminating or selling any information protected by law or subject to privilege or an expectation of privacy.
5. Causing or permitting materials protected by copyright, trademark, service mark, trade name, trade secret, confidentiality or proprietary data, or communications of another, to be uploaded to a computer or information system, published, broadcast, or in any way disseminated without authorization from the owner.
6. Damaging or altering the operation, function, content or design of the Polaris information technology facilities.
7. Gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to other computers or computer systems.
8. Installing or maintaining any hardware or executable software not owned or licensed by the Polaris Board of Education. This includes software in the public domain and “shareware”.
9. Granting access to the Polaris information technology facilities to individuals not authorized by the Board, either by intentional conduct such as disclosing passwords, or by unintentional conduct such as failing to log off.
10. Commercial, profit-motivated, or partisan political use not related to board programs.
11. Accessing personal social networking sites for non-educational purposes.

On-line services provide access to countless computer networks, some of which contain material that may be deemed offensive or inappropriate. Polaris Career Center is not responsible for the content of any materials students may access through on-line services. The Board does not condone accessing offensive or inappropriate materials and shall take reasonable steps to monitor Polaris’ information technology facility usage to prevent usage inconsistent with this policy.

Students will be educated about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Security on any computer system is a high priority. If you identify a potential security problem on the Polaris network, notify a system administrator immediately. DO NOT demonstrate the problem to other users or make any attempt to compromise the data.

Polaris Career Center retains the right to monitor any and all student usage of the Polaris information technology facilities. This right explicitly includes the right to read students’ communications, if any. No students should have any expectation of privacy regarding the use of the Polaris’ information technology facilities.

The Superintendent is authorized to adopt such rules as are appropriate to implement this policy. Students and their parents shall be required to sign and acknowledge that they have read and understand this Policy and agree to its terms.

I HAVE READ AND REVIEWED THE ACCEPTABLE USE OF STUDENT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY AND AGREE TO ITS TERMS (See Board Policy Number 7540.03).

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