

EULA ISD TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Acceptable Use of District Technology Resources

To prepare students for an increasingly technological society, the district has made an investment in the use of district-owned technology resources for instructional purposes; specific resources may be issued individually to students. Use of these technological resources, which include the district's network systems and use of district equipment, is restricted to approved purposes only. Students and parents will be asked to sign a user agreement (separate from this handbook) regarding use of these district resources. Violations of the user agreement may result in withdrawal of privileges and other disciplinary action.

Unacceptable and Inappropriate Use of Technology Resources

Students are prohibited from possessing, sending, forwarding, posting, accessing, or displaying electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal. This prohibition also applies to conduct off school property, whether the equipment used to send such messages is district-owned or personally owned, if it results in a substantial disruption to the educational environment. Any person taking, disseminating, transferring, possessing, or sharing obscene, sexually oriented, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or other content, commonly referred to as "sexting," will be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct and may, in certain circumstances, be reported to law enforcement.

In addition, any student who engages in conduct that results in a breach of the district's computer security will be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct, and, in some cases, the consequence may rise to the level of expulsion.

Unacceptable Uses-

1. Personal Safety

- a You will not post personal contact information about yourself or other people. Personal contact information includes your address, telephone number, school address, work address, etc.
- b You will not agree to meet with someone you have met online without your parent's approval. Your parent should accompany you to this meeting.
- c You will promptly disclose to your teacher or other school employee any message you receive that is inappropriate or makes you feel uncomfortable.

2. Illegal Activities

- a. You will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the computer network or to any other computer system through the computer network or go beyond your authorized access. This includes attempting to log in through another person's account or access another person's files. These actions are illegal, even if only for the purposes of "browsing"
- b. You will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the computer system or destroy data by spreading a computer virus or by any other means. These actions are illegal and punitive measures will be taken.
- c. You will not use the computer network to engage in any other illegal act, such as arranging for a drug sale or the purchase of alcohol, engaging in criminal gang activity, threatening the safety of persons, etc.

3. System Security

- a. You are responsible for your individual account and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use your account. Under no conditions should you provide your password to another person.
- b. You will immediately notify a teacher or the system administrator if you have identified a possible security problem. Do not go looking for security problems, because this may be construed as an illegal attempt to gain access.
- c. You will avoid the inadvertent spread of computer viruses by following the District's virus protection procedures if you download software.

4. Inappropriate Language

- a. Restrictions against inappropriate language apply to public messages, private messages, and materials posted on the Web pages.
- b. You will not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening or disrespectful language.
- c. You will not post information that could cause damage or a danger or disruption.
- d. You will not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
- e. You will not harass another person. Harassment is acting in a manner that distresses another person.
- f. You will not knowingly or recklessly post fake or defamatory information about a person or organization.

5. Respect for Privacy

You will not re-post a message sent to you privately without the permission of the person who sent you the message.

You will not post private information about another person.

6. Respecting Resource Limits

- a. You will use the system only for educational and career development activities and limited, high-quality, self-discovery activities. There is no limit on use for education and career development activities.
- b. You will not download large files unless absolutely necessary. If you find it necessary, contact your teacher. Large files should be downloaded at a time when the system is not being heavily used.
- c. You will not post chain letters or engage in “spamming”. Spamming is sending an annoying or unnecessary message to a large number of people.
- d. If permitted, you will subscribe only to high quality discussion group mail-lists that are relevant to your education or career development.

7. Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement

- a. You will not plagiarize work that you find on the Internet. Plagiarism is taking the ideas or writings of others and presenting them as if they were yours.
- b. You will respect the rights of copyrights owners. Copyright infringement occurs when you inappropriately reproduce a work that is protected by a copyright. If a work contains language that specifies appropriate use of that work, you should follow the expressed requirements. If you are unsure whether or not you can use a work, you should request permission from the copyright owner. Copyright laws can be very confusing. If you have a question ask a teacher or librarian.

8. Inappropriate Access to Material

- a. You will not use the computer network to access material that is profane or obscene (pornography), that advocates violence or discrimination towards other people (hate literature). A special exception may be made for hate literature if the purpose of your access is to conduct research and both your teacher and parent have approved.
- b. If you mistakenly access inappropriate information, you should immediately tell your teacher or another District employee. This would protect you against a claim that you have intentionally violated this Policy.
- c. Your parents should instruct you if there is additional material that they think would be inappropriate for you to access. The District fully expects that you will follow your parent’s instructions in this matter.

9. Your Rights

1. Free Speech

- a. Your right to free speech, as set forth in the Student Handbook, applies also to your communication on the Internet. The computer network is considered a limited forum, similar to the school newspaper, and therefore the District may restrict your speech of valid reasons. The District will not restrict your speech on the basis of a disagreement with the opinions you are expressing.

2. Search and Seizure

- a. You should expect only limited privacy in the contents of your personal files on the District system. The Situation is similar to the rights you have in the privacy of your locker.
- b. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the computer network may lead to discovery that you have violated this Policy, the Student Handbook, or the law.
- c. An individual search will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that you have violated this Policy, the Student Handbook, or the law. The investigation will be reasonable and related to the suspected violation.
- d. Your parents have the right at any time to request to see the contents of your work.

3. Due Process

- a. The District will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation related to any illegal activities conducted through the computer network.
- b. In the event there is a claim that you have violated this Policy or the Student Handbook in your use of the computer network, you will be provided with written notice of the suspected violation and an opportunity to present an explanation before a neutral administrator.
- c. If the violation also involves a violation of other provisions of the Student Handbook, it will be handled in a manner described in the Student Handbook. Additional restrictions may be placed on your use of your Internet account.

4. Limitation of Liability

The District makes no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through the District system will be error free or without defect. The District will not be responsible for any damage you may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. The District will not be Responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system.

5. Personal Responsibility

When you are using the computer network, it may feel like you can more easily break a rule and not get caught. This is not true. Whenever you do something without being caught does not make it right to do so. Even if you don't get caught, there is always one person who will know whether you have done something wrong and that person is you. Your use of the Internet can be a mirror that will show you what kind of a person you are.

TESTING

Eula students will take the TAKS test in grades 3-11. The exit level test must be passed prior to a student receiving a diploma. Those who do not pass the test will take the test until they pass all sections of the test. Students should remember that they must have the required number of credits and passing scores on the TAKS test to be eligible for graduation exercises.

TITLE IX

Eula Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap in providing education services. The superintendent has been designated to coordinate compliance with non-discrimination requirements of Title IX and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.