

## Student Technology Responsible Use and Safety Agreement

To utilize the district's technology, networks, e-mail and/or the Internet at school, students under the age of eighteen (18) must obtain parent permission and must sign and return this form. Students eighteen (18) and over may sign their own forms. Use of the district's technology, networks and the Internet is a privilege, not a right. The Corporation's Internet connection is provided for educational purposes only. Unauthorized and/or inappropriate use will result in cancellation of this privilege.

***The Corporation provides network and Internet access, and other online services, to provide students with a wealth of global resources. These services are intended to enhance and reinforce the educational development of students in a digital era. Digital citizenship is a critical component to this development and will be taught throughout the curriculum.***

***A good digital citizen is one who obeys the rules and laws while using the Internet and digital technology, respects oneself and others in the digital space, and uses a digital presence to shape the digital world in a creative way.***

The Corporation has implemented technology protection measures, which protect against (e.g. block/filter) Internet access to visual displays/depictions/materials that are obscene, constitute child pornography, or are harmful to minors. The Corporation also monitors online activity of students on the network in an effort to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. Nevertheless, parents/guardians are advised that determined users may be able to gain access to information, communication, and/or services on the Internet that the School Board has not authorized for educational purposes and/or that they and/or their parents/guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial. Parents/Guardians assume the risk by consenting to allow their students to participate in the use of the Internet. ***Students accessing the Internet through the school's computers assume personal responsibility and liability, both civil and criminal, for unauthorized or inappropriate use of the network and the Internet. Parents/Guardians are strongly urged to review and communicate with their child regularly responsible and appropriate use of the Internet.***

## I. **Respect and Protect**

Digital citizens should respect and protect themselves and others while using the Internet. The following guidelines should always be followed online.

### a. **Respect**

- Follow the rules of web sites and online services when you visit or sign up.
- Only put information online that is appropriate, including pictures and videos.  
***Remember, posting inappropriately online CAN affect your future.***
- Only visit appropriate web sites. If you wouldn't be comfortable showing the site to your family, then it isn't appropriate.
- Act sensibly and civilly when using social media. Do not "flame" or cyberbully, and always use acceptable language.
- Do not attempt to gain access to other people's information or private profiles. Respect privacy.
- Ask others for permission before posting pictures.

### b. **Protect**

- Avoid posting personal information online where anyone can see it.
- Report cyberbullying immediately.
- Set privacy settings on social media to limit who can access personal profiles and information.

## II. **Wireless Communication Devices**

A "wireless communication device" is a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor. The following devices are examples of WCDs: cellular and wireless phones, pagers/beepers, personal digital assistants (PDAs), Smartphones, Wi-Fi-enabled or broadband access devices, two-way radios or video broadcasting devices, laptops, and other devices that allow a person to record and/or transmit, on either a real time or delayed basis, sound, video or still images, text, or other information.

Students may use wireless communication devices (WCDs) as long as they do not create a distraction, disruption or otherwise interfere with the educational environment. Also, the following rules apply while using WCDs:

- a. During instructional time, WCDs are solely allowed when authorized by the classroom instructor for educational purposes related directly to classroom curriculum.
- b. ***All WCDs, including personal devices, must connect to the corporation network for Internet access***, which is filtered under the corporation's technology protection measures and in compliance with laws and regulations, ***even when alternative sources***

**are available** (e.g. hotspots, cellular connectivity).

- c. Students using personal devices in school, on school property, and at school functions are required to **follow the Student Code of Conduct, and violations of this code are subject to disciplinary action.**
- d. All personal WCDs must have up-to-date antivirus protection for use on the school's network.
- e. **Under no circumstances may personal devices contain/store or be used to share or view pornography** or any other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors or in violation of state or federal laws.
- f. Students are prohibited from using a WCD to capture and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using their WCDs to receive such information.
- g. Students may use WCDs while riding to and from school on a school bus or other vehicle provided by the Board or on a school bus or Board-provided vehicle during school-sponsored activities, at the discretion of the bus driver or classroom teacher. Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment will not be tolerated.

**Students are prohibited from using WCDs to capture, record or transmit the words (i.e. audio) and/or images (i.e., pictures/video) of any student, staff member or other person in the school or while attending a school-related activity,** without express prior notice and explicit consent for the capture, recording or transmission of such words or images. Unless authorized by the building principal, using a WCD to take or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without his/her consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted. Students who violate this provision and/or use a WCD to violate the privacy rights of another person may face disciplinary actions.

**WCDs, including but not limited to those with cameras, may not be possessed, activated or utilized at any time in any school situation where a reasonable expectation of personal privacy exists.** These locations and circumstances include but are not limited to locker rooms, shower facilities, restrooms, classrooms, and any other areas where students or others may change clothes or be in any stage or degree of disrobing or changing clothes. The building principal has authority to make determinations as to other specific locations and situations where possession of a WCD is absolutely prohibited.

**No expectation of confidentiality or privacy will exist in the use of WCDs on school premises/property. The School City of Hobart has the authority to access a student's personal WCD to verify compliance with the school's Code of Conduct and this policy.**

Possession of WCD by a student is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise engages in misuse of this privilege.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the WCD. The building principal may also refer the matter to law enforcement if the violation involves an illegal activity (e.g. child pornography). Discipline will be imposed on an escalating scale ranging from a warning to an expulsion based on the number of previous violations and/or the nature of the circumstances surrounding a particular violation. If the WCD is confiscated, it will be released/returned to the student's parent/guardian after the student complies with any other disciplinary consequences that are imposed. Any WCD confiscated by Corporation staff will be marked in a removable manner with the student's name and held in a secure location in the building's central office until it is retrieved by the parent/guardian. WCDs in Corporation custody will not be searched or otherwise tampered with unless school officials reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of the law or other school rules. Any search will be conducted in accordance with Policy 5771 – Search and Seizure. If multiple offenses occur, a student may lose his/her privilege to bring a WCD to school for a designated length of time or on a permanent basis.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their WCDs. The Board assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, damage, or vandalism to WCDs brought onto its property, or the unauthorized use of such devices.

### **III. Social Media Use**

The use of social media, including but not limited to blogs, online forms, wikis, social media sites, etc., may occur in the classroom for educational purposes. Users of social media are digital citizens and should follow the guidelines outlined for being a responsible user. Students must follow the Student Code of Conduct when using social media and the following rules.

- a. Social media should only be used when instructed by a classroom teacher or building principal.***
- b. Never post material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors, or that threatens, defames or harasses any individual or group of people.
- c. Never post confidential information about any person or yourself. If any personal information is shared, consider that information to be public for anyone to see.
- d. Never post false information or information as another user.
- e. Never post information that violates privacy, intellectual property, or copyright.

#### IV. Bullying/Harassment

***Students are prohibited from using a WCD and/or the Internet in any way that might reasonably create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated. See Policy 5517.01 – Bullying.*** This applies when a student is on school grounds immediately before or during school hours, immediately after school hours, or at any other time when the school is being used by a school group; off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event; traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or, using property or equipment provided by the school. Additionally, this applies regardless of the physical location when:

- a. the individual committing the bullying behavior and any of the intended targets of the bullying behavior are students attending the school within the Corporation; and
- b. the bullying behavior results in a substantial interference with school discipline or an unreasonable threat to the rights of others to a safe and peaceful learning environment.

Any person who discovers a student in possession or using a WCD in violation of this policy, or using the Internet in a way that violates this policy, is required to report the violation to the building principal.

Parent/Guardians are advised that communication through wireless communication devices with their child is not permitted during instructional time. Parents are encouraged to notify the office for emergency situations in order for the school to assist the children when necessary.

Students may not communicate with their parents through wireless communication devices during instructional time.

**Please complete the following information:**

Student User's Full Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian**

As the parent/guardian of this student, I have read the Student Technology and Network Responsible Use and Safety Policy and Guidelines, and have discussed them with my child. I understand that student access to the Internet is designed for educational purposes and that the Corporation has taken available precautions to restrict and/or control student access to material on the Internet that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minor. However, I recognize that it is impossible for the Corporation to restrict access to all objectionable and/or controversial materials that may be found on the Internet. I will not hold the Corporation (or any of its employees, administrators, or officers) responsible for materials my child may acquire or come in contact with while on the Internet. Additionally, I accept responsibility for communicating to my child guidance concerning his/her acceptable use of the Internet - i.e., setting and conveying standards for my daughter/son to follow when selecting, sharing and exploring information and resources on the Internet. I further understand that individuals and families may be liable for violations.

I understand that students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their WCDs. The Board assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, damage, or vandalism to WCDs brought onto its property, or the unauthorized use of such devices. My child will use and access the Internet at school and authorize the Corporation to issue an Internet/e-mail account to my child. I release and hold harmless the School City of Hobart for any theft, loss, damage, and vandalism, or unauthorized use under the Computer Technology and Networks policy. To the extent that proprietary rights in the design of a website hosted on the Corporation's servers would vest in my child upon creation, I agree to assign those rights to the Corporation.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student**

I have read and agree to abide by the Student Technology and Network Responsible Use and Safety Policy and Guidelines. I understand that any violation of the terms and conditions set forth in the Policy and Guidelines is inappropriate and may constitute a criminal offense. As a user of the Corporation's network and the Internet, I agree to communicate over the Internet and the Network in an appropriate manner, honoring all relevant laws, restrictions and guidelines.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Teachers and building principals are responsible for determining unauthorized or inappropriate use. The principal may deny, revoke or suspend access to the Network/Internet to individuals who violate the Student Technology and Network Responsible Use and Safety Policy and related Guidelines, and take such other disciplinary action as is appropriate pursuant to the Student Code of Conduct.**

**Parents: Please complete and detach the blue page from this packet, and return to your child's school on the next day of school. Computer/Internet privileges will be withheld until this form is completed and returned!**