Wall Independent School District
Student Electronic Communications & Data Management
Acceptable Use Policy 2022-2023

Wall Independent School District is committed to providing our students with the best education possible and preparing them to compete in the world market. One resource that promises to play a major role in this goal is the development of technology in the classroom. Wall ISD has implemented networked systems in order to provide our students and staff with access to a world of information, including institutional and government resources, electronic mail, real-time communication, and the internet.

A Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliant, content filtering solution is in place in order to prevent access to certain sites that may contain inappropriate material, including pornography, weapons, illegal drugs, gambling, and any other topics deemed to be of non-educational value by Wall ISD. Although a conscious effort will be made by professionals to prevent access to materials that are inappropriate for the educational setting, no safeguard is foolproof. *The user is ultimately responsible for not seeking or initiating access to inappropriate material.* ***Wall ISD is not responsible for the content accessed by users who connect via their own mobile WiFi type service (cellphones, air-cards, etc.)***

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of assigned teachers to educate minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and on cyberbullying awareness and response, and it is the responsibility of all staff to supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

The following guidelines and expectations apply to all persons using the technology resources of Wall ISD. The district provides access to available technology to its employees and students, collectively known as users. The use of these resources is a privilege. Violations of these guidelines or any other inappropriate use will result in loss of technology privileges and/or disciplinary action.

Acceptable Use Policy Terms and Conditions

Responsible Use and Digital Citizenship

Technology is to be utilized in conformity with laws of the United States and the State of Texas. Violations include, but are not limited to, the following: a) criminal acts such as cyberstalking, child pornography, email harassment, vandalism/hacking networks, cyberbullying; b) libel laws which involve defaming people through published materials; c) copyright violations; d) student privacy protection (COPPA); and e) safeguarding internet safety (CIPA).

Network Etiquette – Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These rules include, but are not limited to, the following:
   a. Be polite - Never send, or encourage others to send, abusive messages.
   b. Use appropriate language - You are a representative of Wall ISD. Never swear, use vulgarities, threaten, or use any other inappropriate language.
   c. Privacy - Do not reveal any personal information such as a home address or personal phone number of yourself or others.

d. Password - Do not reveal your password to anyone.
e. Electronic Mail - E-mail is not guaranteed to be private. Only send messages that you would not be ashamed for the whole school to see. While using the district's e-mail, users should conduct themselves appropriately and in a manner befitting an student of Wall ISD. Email is monitored for inappropriate/abusive content.
f. Disruptions - Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt use of the network by others.
g. Wastefulness – Do not waste limited resources such as disk space, network bandwidth, and printer consumables. Be considerate of other users and the cost to the school district at all times.

Your Account – Each user will be supplied with a computer, a Google Education, and a student email account at Wall ISD. Users are responsible for the use of their computer account and the activities performed under this account. This means that if you give someone your password, YOU are responsible for anything that happens as a result.

Email Account – All students K-12 are assigned an Office 365 email account. Each account is firstname.lastname@stu.wallisd.net. These accounts are primarily for school assignments, Google Classroom, and accounts for online educational resources. Students grades K-5 are restricted from sending emails outside of Wall ISD and from receiving emails outside of Wall ISD.

Online Accounts – Select usernames that are appropriate. They should never include obscene words.

Respect Others – Users are forbidden from using technologies to bully or tease other people. Users are also forbidden from making audio or video recordings of students/employees without their prior permission. Posing as someone else using technology is forbidden.

Chat Rooms/Blogs/Instant Messaging – Users are prohibited from participating in any chat rooms, newsgroups, non-educational blogs, other messaging services, or social networking sites. This includes, but is not limited to Facebook, SnapChat, Instagram, Youtue, and other similar services. Student use of any educational Blogs, newsgroups, Google Plus, etc. for classroom purposes must be approved by the technology director, teacher, and/or campus principal prior to accessing these sites.

Games – All users are prohibited from playing non-educational games.

Privacy - Users must respect the privacy of others. Users shall not obtain copies of or modify files, passwords, or data that belongs to anyone else. No one should represent himself/herself as someone else by using another's account. No one should forward personal material without prior consent. Users are prohibited from unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors. All use of the Wall ISD network and Internet services may be monitored by network administrators at any time to ensure proper use and maintain system integrity.

Equipment Installation/Media Use – Personal or other purchased equipment not expressly authorized by the Director of Technology or designee will not be installed on the network. Prohibited equipment is defined as any network attached items including, but not limited to: hubs, switches, routers, access points, splitters, network printers, and key loggers. Persons who introduce these devices on the Network will be subject to denial of access and/or disciplinary actions. Jump drives, CD/DVDs, and other such media that contain files necessary to conduct schoolwork are allowed with the following restrictions.
- Students must gain permission from the teacher to use personal laptops, tablets, cell phones, and digital media device.
- All media brought in by students must be scanned for viruses, prior to its use, using the virus scan software installed on the PCs.

Inappropriate Behavior*

The following actions are not permitted and could result in the consequences outlined per the Handbook and District policy:

1. Users may not attempt to disable or bypass the Wall ISD content filter, including the use of wireless internet cards or personal hotspots.
2. Users may not illegally access or manipulate the information of a private database/system such as gradebooks and other student information systems.
3. Users may not launch denial of services attacks using personal or work technology (e.g. DOS, DDOS), hack or engage in behavior that attacks the network or internet access.
4. Users may not send, save, view, forward, or create harassing or offensive content/messages. Offensive material includes, but is not limited to, pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material, sexual comments, jokes or images that would violate school policies. The school policies against harassment and discrimination apply to the use of technology.
5. Users may not use their District email or district-provided/managed services, to engage in actions deemed inappropriate* to others subject to District policy.

*In addition to behavior described above, the Director of Technology, and Department/Campus administrator will deem what is considered to be inappropriate use of the Wall ISD computer network. They may suspend an account or network access at any time. Student discipline will be referred to campus administration.

Software Licensing - All users must respect the legal protection provided by copyright laws to programs, books, articles, and data. Installation and/or use of unlicensed software will not be permitted under any circumstance.

Forgery and Plagiarism– Forgery or attempted forgery of electronic mail messages and/or data is prohibited. Attempts to read, delete, copy, or modify the electronic mail or data of other system users is prohibited. Interference with the ability of other system users or use of another person's user ID and/or password is prohibited. Plagiarism and cheating using technology is also prohibited.

Services – Wall ISD makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the network service it is providing. The District's system is provided on an "as is, as available" basis. Wall ISD will not be responsible for damages suffered while on this system. Wall ISD specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through its electronic services.

Security – If users identify a security problem, it is their responsibility to notify the personnel in the Technology Office at once. Users should not demonstrate the problem to others. Any user identified as a security risk will be denied access to the information system.

Vandalism – Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy any equipment or data of any user or any other networks that are connected to the system. Deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt system performance are violations of District policy and may constitute criminal activity under applicable state and federal laws. Such prohibited includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. Any vandalism will result in the cancellation of system use privileges and will require restitution for costs associated with system restoration, as well as other appropriate consequences.

Equipment Checkout – Technology equipment, such as laptops, projectors, cameras, etc. that is checked out by individuals is the sole responsibility of that individual and is bound by all district policies. Any hardware

and/or software damage that occurs while in the possession of the individual due to neglect or misuse will be repaired and/or replaced at the individual's expense. Software or hardware modifications/installations by the individual are prohibited unless permission is first obtained from the Wall ISD Technology Office.

Disclaimer of Liability – Wall ISD shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of technology, violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, users' mistakes or negligence, nor costs incurred by users. Wall ISD filters Internet traffic; however, accuracy, appropriateness, or usability of information found cannot be insured.

Personal Responsibility - As a representative of this school, administrators, faculty, and students will accept personal responsibility for reporting any misuse of the network to a technology staff member.

Personal Use – The district realizes that from time to time the user may make incidental personal use of the Wall ISD system technology resources. Such use may not consume more than a trivial amount of technology resources and cannot interfere with employee productivity or student education.

Disciplinary Action – Misuse of technology may result in disciplinary action. The level of offense will be based on the severity of the offense as determined by the principal, director of technology, and/or other administrator of the district. The disciplinary action will follow the level of offense disciplinary guidelines listed in the student handbook.

Just as everyone in the school system is expected to use physical resources at Wall ISD responsibly, we are also expected to help protect technology resources at Wall. Protecting the networks is not the sole responsibility of Wall ISD system administrators any more than taking care of books is totally the responsibility of librarians. In order to receive a computer account and Internet access, please read and sign the attached agreement and return it to the appropriate campus office.s