

**MSAD #37 POLICY****STUDENT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE AND INTERNET SAFETY**

MSAD #37 provides computers, networks and Internet access to support the educational mission of the schools and to enhance the curriculum and learning opportunities for students and school staff. This policy and the accompanying rules also apply to laptops issued directly to students, whether they are used at school or off school premises. The Board believes that the resources available through the Internet are of significant value in the learning process and preparing students for future success. At the same time, the unregulated availability of information and communication on the Internet requires that schools establish reasonable controls for lawful, efficient and appropriate use of this technology.

Student use of school computers, networks and Internet services is a privilege not a right. Students are required to comply with this policy and the accompanying rules. Students who violate the policy and/or rules may have their computer privileges limited, suspended, or revoked and may also be subject to further disciplinary and/or legal action.

All MSAD #37 computers remain under the control, custody and supervision of the school unit. The school unit monitors all computer and Internet activity by students. Students have no expectation of privacy in their use of school computers, whether they are used on school property or elsewhere.

**INTERNET SAFETY**

MSAD #37 uses filtering technology designed to block materials that are obscene or harmful to minors, and child pornography. While reasonable precautions will be taken to supervise and monitor student use of the Internet, parents should be aware that MSAD #37 cannot reasonably prevent all inappropriate uses, including access to objectionable materials and communication with persons outside of the school, in violation of Board policies/procedures and school rules. The school unit is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information that students obtain through the Internet.

In the interest of student Internet safety, MSAD #37 also educates students about online behavior, including interacting with other people on social networking sites and in chat rooms, the dangers of engaging in “hacking” and other unlawful online activities, and issues surrounding “sexting” and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Before a student is allowed to use Internet services, the student and the student’s parent/guardian must sign and return the *Student Internet Access Acknowledgment Form* (IJNDB–E). The signed acknowledgment will be retained by the school and will be placed in the student’s permanent record folder. The signed acknowledgment will remain in effect until revoked in writing by the student’s parent/guardian or by the school, or until a new policy is implemented. It will be the responsibility of the school principal and/or his designee to properly maintain these Internet access records and to create and update as needed an accurate list of all students with Internet access privileges. Students moving from the district’s five elementary schools to the high school will be expected to sign and return a new copy of the *Student Internet Access Acknowledgment Form* (IJNDB–E) before being allowed to use Internet services at the high school.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY AND “ACCEPTABLE USE” RULES**

The Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy and the accompanying rules and for advising the Board of the need for any future amendments or revisions to the policy/rules. The Superintendent may develop additional administrative procedures/rules governing the day-to-day management, security, and operations of the school unit’s computer and network systems and to prevent the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding minors as long as they are consistent with the Board’s policy/rules. The Superintendent may delegate specific responsibilities to building principals and others as he/she deems appropriate.

The Superintendent /designee shall be responsible for integrating age-appropriate Internet safety training and “digital citizenship” into the curriculum and for documentation of Internet safety training.

Students and parents shall be informed of this policy and the accompanying rules through student handbooks, the school website, and/or other means selected by the Superintendent.

Legal Reference:       20 USC § 677 (Enhancing Education through Technology Act)  
                              47 USC § 254(h)(5) (Children’s Internet Protection Act)  
                              47 CFR § 54.52 (Children’s Internet Protection Act Certifications)  
                              Federal Communications Commission Order and Report 11-125,  
                              (August 10, 2011)

Cross Reference:       IJNDB-R - Student Computer and Internet Use Rules

Adopted:               September 27, 2000

Revised:               July 25, 2012