

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS

POLICY Student Internet Use	CMS/NEPN Code: IJNDB
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I. CMS Network

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (“CMS”) offers an electronic communications network (“CMS network”) that allows students internal access to CMS information resources and external access to the Internet. Access to the CMS network and the Internet is provided to students solely to support student education, research, and career development. Use of the CMS network is a privilege, not a right. Therefore, students who violate any part of this policy or its accompanying regulations may be subject to cancellation of their privileges to use the CMS network and possible disciplinary actions.¹

II. Personal Technology Device

To encourage growth, creativity, collaboration, and higher achievement, with the Superintendent’s authorization, students will be permitted to bring Personal Technology Devices (“PTD”) to school to use to support student education, research, and career development.² A PTD is a portable Internet-accessing device designed to share information, record sounds, process words, and/or capture images, such as a laptop, tablet, smart phone, cell phone, PDA, or e-book reader.³

III. Accessibility

The Internet connects computers, computer networks, and individual subscribers around the world. Through the CMS network, students may have access to information and news, some of which may include advertisements, public domain information, and information in university libraries, the Library of Congress, and other research institutions. Students may also create individual web pages and help to create and maintain school web pages.

¹ School disciplinary actions for violations of this policy will be taken according to the rules set forth in the Code of Student Conduct, which is found in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. The “Code of Student Conduct” means the behavior guidelines published by the district for the current school year, and includes all equivalent publications in subsequent school years that may have different titles. A copy of the Code of Student Conduct is made available to students and published on the CMS website (www.cms.k12.nc.us).

² CMS is not responsible for acquiring, using, servicing, or maintaining devices or data plans.

³ More information on PTDs is available in the Student Internet Use and Network Access Regulation (IJNDB-R).

Date of Adoption: 3/26/96

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Revised: 11/11/03, 5/24/05, 8/15/12

Legal Reference: Children’s Internet Protection Act - 47 U.S.C.§ 254 (h); 20 U.S.C. § 9134; , Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act – Pub. L. 110-382, 15 U.S.C.A. §6551; N.C.G.S. § 14-190.1

Cross Reference: IJNDB-R, JICK, JICK-R, JK, JKD

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IV. Restrictions

The CMS network is not a public access service or a public forum. CMS retains the right to place restrictions on material accessed or transmitted by students. CMS employees may access student accounts, e-mail messages, or web pages at any time in order to assure that the system has not been used for inappropriate purposes. Students are directed not to access information that does not have an educational purpose, is obscene, advocates or condones unlawful or dangerous acts, or advocates or condones violence or discrimination towards other people. Further, students should have no expectation of privacy for any information created, transmitted, recorded, stored, or posted on or through the CMS network. Other restrictions on student use are included in the regulations accompanying this policy.

V. Filters and Monitoring

CMS will use filters that, within the limits of technology, control and screen out information that is inappropriate, obscene, pornographic, or harmful to minors. Further, teachers and other staff will monitor student activity while using the CMS network. However, despite the filtering of information and monitoring by teachers and staff, students might access information that parents⁴ consider objectionable. Parents should instruct their child(ren) regarding any additional parental restrictions on information that is allowed to be accessed. However, CMS does not accept responsibility for enforcing restrictions imposed by parents. It is the responsibility of parents to install parental controls on any PTD their child brings to school to prevent access to information they consider inappropriate.

VI. Digital Citizenship

CMS will provide digital citizenship education to all students that addresses appropriate online behavior, including interactions with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

⁴ Unless otherwise stated, references to “parents” includes one or both parents, legal guardian, or legal custodian of a student, or person acting *in loco parentis* to the student

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VII. Student Acceptable Use Policy

Before students are given access to the Internet from CMS computers or otherwise allowed to use the CMS network, they must accept the terms of the “Student Internet Use Agreement.” This Agreement defines the educational objectives and guidelines for use, informs student users that their online activities are subject to monitoring, and sets forth unacceptable uses that may lead to revocation of access and possible legal action. Parents of students younger than age 18 who do not want their children to use the CMS network and/or to access the Internet at school must notify the school in writing.

VIII. Disclaimer

CMS is not responsible for theft, loss, or damages to any PTD brought to school, or any injuries suffered as a result of a student’s use of the CMS network or a PTD. Students and parents maintain sole responsibility for all PTDs brought to school.

IX. Security

Anyone who becomes aware of suspicious or inappropriate use of data, CMS network or computer system abuse, or breaches of security should alert a teacher or other supervisory staff as soon as possible. Any person who accidentally accesses sites that violate this policy should report such sites to the appropriate teacher or other staff member.

X. Regulations

The Superintendent will approve regulations to accompany this policy.

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