

MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE ADOPTED: July 18, 1996  
DATE REVISED: December 17, 1998  
DATE REVISED: October 21, 1999  
DATE REVISED: August 17, 2000  
DATE REVISED: July 19, 2001  
DATE REVISED: July 19, 2007  
DATE REVISED: March 20, 2008  
DATE REVISED: April 18, 2013  
DATE REVISED: June 22, 2020  
DATE REVISED: April 22, 2024

FILE SECTOR: INSTRUCTION  
POLICY TITLE: INTERNET SAFETY /  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY -  
STUDENTS

Medford Area Public School District (MAPSD) provides internet access and information technology resources for its students. These resources will be integrated where appropriate in the PreK-12 curriculum. When possible, the district will be partners with the community in technology projects. It is essential that each student recognize their responsibility in having access to services, sites and people. The student(s) is ultimately responsible for their actions in accessing MAPSD's computer and network services, and for adhering to district use policies, procedures and guidelines.

It is impossible to control all materials from the internet. MAPSD believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that student(s) may access materials that are not consistent with the educational goals of the district. Our focus is in providing individual student(s) with the understanding and skills needed to use the internet, MAPSD's network and all computing devices in ways appropriate to their educational needs.

Through MAPSD's network and internet access, student(s) may:

- access global resources.
- enter into partnerships to enhance their learning options.
- broaden their problem-solving and decision-making abilities.
- broaden their research capabilities by using primary materials.
- develop their higher-level thinking skills.
- gain an employable skill.
- utilize a personalized, motivational learning opportunity.
- differentiate and assess available resources.

**Policy Statements**

- Access to the computer network and technology resources within MAPSD is a privilege, not a right. This privilege will be revoked at any time for deliberate use not consistent with the "Information Technology Code of Conduct" (IIGBA-R). Furthermore, unacceptable use may result in suspension or revocation of network privileges and possibly other disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

- Student(s) shall not access or use email or other communication systems to relay threatening, intimidating, abusive or harassing messages. Such use may result in criminal sanctions consistent with Wisconsin Statutes §947.0125.
- Student(s) shall not impose their choices on others, access private files, attempt to break the security systems, copy software illegally, or use computer supplies that are not for school-related activities.
- Student(s) accessing district computers or network may not corrupt network integrity by deliberately allowing inappropriate and/or dangerous files (i.e. viruses) to enter the system.
- Any use of the network to facilitate illegal activity is prohibited and will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
- Copyrighted material may not be placed on the network without the copyright owner's permission.
- Student(s) are responsible for the ethical and educational use of their own accounts. These accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purposes. Student(s) shall not intentionally obtain copies of and/or modify the files or passwords belonging to other users.
- MAPSD is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through information technology resources. MAPSD is also not responsible for any damages the student(s) suffers, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, hardware system problems or service interruptions. Use of any information obtained via district technology is at the user's risk.
- Cyberbullying is unacceptable and punishable. Cyberbullying involves the use of information and communication technologies such as: email, text messages, instant messaging, or defamatory web sites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group that is intended to harm others.
- Principals may establish additional rules and procedures that they deem necessary to ensure proper use of computers and networks in their buildings.
- The staff has the responsibility of making the educational goal clearly understood by the student. In addition, it is the responsibility of the staff to inform the student of their responsibilities when accessing the networks and the proper etiquette for their use.

### **Student and Parent Responsibility and Consent**

Parents should be advised that even though the district does employ some types of filtering software, it **DOES NOT** have complete control of information and content on the internet. Therefore, the information which students have access to may include material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, visual depictions that are harmful to minors, or potentially objectionable. While it is the intent of MAPSD to make internet access or other technology services available to further its educational goals, students may have the ability to access other materials as well. Therefore, all students in grades 5 and 9 and new students in grades 5-12 who access the internet independently via technology provided through MAPSD are asked to sign the Information Technology Code of Conduct Form at the time of initial use. The form will be renewed as students change buildings. The Code of Conduct, including the Rules for Computer and Network Use along with any additional building use regulations, will be discussed with the students. The building principal or their designee may require a written test, and/or a demonstration of personal competency before access is granted.

Since students may have access to material which is beyond the district's control, a parent/guardian must sign the Student Registration Form requesting that their child have or not have individual access to the internet. Parent(s)/guardian(s) have the right to modify permission at any time by contacting the school.

**CROSS REFERENCE:** IIBGA-R, IIBGB, IIBGC, JFC & KGA

**LEGAL REFERENCE:** §118.13, 120.13(1), 120.18, 121.02(1)(H), 943.70, 947.0125, 948.12 Wis. Stats., PI 8.01(2)(h), PI 9.03 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, COPPA 16 CFR §312.6, 312.7, ACT 7 (18 U.S.C. §2252), 17 U.S.C. §512, CIPPA (47 U.S.C. §254 (h), (l)).

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**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CODE OF CONDUCT**

The student is responsible for their actions using the internet or other information technology. Unacceptable uses will result in the suspension or revocation of network privileges and possibly other disciplinary action in compliance with the Student Code of Conduct policy. Typical types of unacceptable use include, but are not limited to, accessing for monetary personal gain, pornography, endangering the health/safety of others, gambling, and/or use in any manner so as to cause damage or disruption of the system. MAPSD administration will determine what is “unacceptable use” and such decisions are final.

**RULES FOR COMPUTER AND NETWORK USE**

All students are expected to use good judgment and communicate in a responsible and appropriate manner and to understand that computer and network use is a privilege and not a right.

**Acceptable Use (but not limited to) - Responsible users will:**

- Understand that all technology software, hardware, communication, electronic and wireless/wiring components that are property of MASPDP are governed by all applicable BOE policies.
- Understand that files are not private and may be monitored.
- Follow proper forms of etiquette for network/technology use.
- Respect and uphold copyright laws and all other applicable laws or regulations (e.g. not pirating software).
- Respect the rights and privacy of others by not accessing or modifying files created by others without permission.
- Use discretion in revealing personal information online.
- Follow the directions of the person(s) in charge and any posted regulations.
- Have a Student Information Technology Code of Conduct form on file in their current building.

**Unacceptable Use (but not limited to) - Responsible users shall not:**

- Use the internet for any illegal purpose. Violators will be reported to proper authorities.
- Use impolite or abusive language.
- Use the system for personal profit.
- Use an account other than their own.
- Create and/or distribute computer viruses.
- Respond to electronic communication that is threatening or obscene.
- Disrupt the use of the network by others.
- Waste technology supplies (i.e. printer supplies, file space).
- Deliberately or willfully cause damage to hardware or assist others in doing same.
- Deliberately access materials that are inconsistent with the district's educational goals or show others how to do same.
- Use the network to violate behavior standards or school policies including but not limited to policies regarding sexual harassment or discrimination.
- Assist others in violating the Code of Conduct.
- Harass, intimidate or bully as described as cyberbullying by usage or employment of network systems (data, video, or voice).