

# **RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET SAFETY**

*Exhibit Code: 3225/4312/7320-E*

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## **BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOLS STUDENT RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET SAFETY AGREEMENT**

(In accordance with Children's Internet Protection Act [CIPA] and North Carolina Public Law 106-554)

### **PURPOSE:**

Beaufort County Schools provides all students on campus access to the Internet and network resources. Additionally students at designated grade levels may have access to email accounts and/or laptop computers as a means to promote achievement and provide diverse opportunities during the educational experience. This agreement provides guidelines and information about the limitations that the school imposes on use of these resources. Beaufort County Board of Education Policy 4312 ("Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Safety") requires that "the student must sign a consent form acknowledging that the student user is responsible for appropriate use of the Internet and consenting to the school system monitoring the student's e-mail communication and use of the Internet" Signing this responsible Use of Technology and Internet Safety Agreement signifies compliance with Board Policy 4312, required for the use of any school computer, including laptop computers, as well as agreement with the higher standards. In this document additional rules may be added as necessary and will become a part of this agreement.

### **TERMS OF THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET SAFETY AGREEMENT**

Specifically, the student:

- Will adhere to these guidelines each time the BCS equipment or online resources are used at home and school.
- Will make available for inspection by an administrator or teacher upon request any messages or files stored or information accessed, downloaded, or transferred using district-owned technology.
- Will use appropriate language in all communications avoiding profanity, obscenity and offensive or inflammatory speech. Cyber Bullying such as personal attacks and/or threats on/against anyone made while using district-owned technology to access the Internet or local school networks are to be reported to responsible school personnel. Rules of etiquette should be followed conducting oneself in a responsible, ethical and polite manner.

- Will follow copyright laws and should only download/import music or other files to a district-owned technology that he/she is authorized or legally permitted to reproduce, or for which he/she has the copyright.
- Will never reveal identifying information, files or communications to others through email or posts to the Internet.
- Will use only school-assigned email for academic purposes and understand that this email is not private.
- Will participate in social networking activities only as assigned and supervised by a teacher; will avoid posting personal information online; will understand that postings are permanent; will exercise mature conduct at all times while online.
- Will not attempt access to networks and other technologies beyond the point of authorized access. This includes attempts to use another person's account and/or password.
- Will not share passwords or attempt to discover passwords. Sharing a password could make you liable if problems arise with its use and subject you to disciplinary action.
- Will not download and/or install any programs, files, or games from the Internet or other sources onto any district-owned technology. This includes the intentional introduction of computer viruses and other malicious software.
- Will not tamper with computer hardware or software, unauthorized entry into computers, and vandalism or destruction of the computer or computer files. Damage to computers may result in felony criminal charges.
- Will not attempt to override, bypass or otherwise change the Internet filtering software or other network configurations.
- Will use technology for school-related purposes only during the instructional day while refraining from use related to commercial, political or other private purposes.
- Will not make use of materials or attempt to locate materials that are unacceptable in a school setting. This includes, but is not limited to pornographic, obscene, graphically violent, or vulgar images, sounds, music, language, video or other materials. The criteria for acceptability is demonstrated in the types of material made available to students by administrators, teachers, and the school media center. Specifically, all district-owned technologies should be free at all times of any pornographic, obscene, graphically violent, or vulgar images, sounds, music, language, video or other materials (files). Students shall inform staff in the event of inadvertent access of inappropriate material.
- Will not connect any personal technologies such as laptops and workstations, wireless access points and routers, printers, etc. to district-owned and maintained local, wide or metro area network. Connection of personal devices such as iPods, smart phones, PDAs

and printers is not supported by BCS technical staff. Home Internet use and cost is the responsibility of the student both in cost and configuration.

- Will keep district laptops secure and damage free. Each laptop that is issued to be used off campus comes with a protective bag/case. If a laptop is issued to an individual student, use of provided laptop bags is required at all times.
- Will back up data and other important files regularly. BCS will at times perform maintenance on the laptops. All files not backed up to server storage space or other storage media will be deleted during these processes. Students are encouraged to back up all personal files on their own storage media as needed.

By signing this I agree to abide by the conditions listed above and assume responsibility for the care and proper use of BCS technology, including personally backing up personal data. BCS is not responsible for any loss resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed deliveries, lost data, or service interruptions caused by user errors, omissions or reasons beyond the district's control, information obtained via the Internet and other sources using BCS technologies is not guaranteed as to its accuracy or quality. I understand that should I fail to honor all the terms of this agreement, future Internet and other electronic media accessibility may be denied. Furthermore, I may be subject to disciplinary action outlined in the BCS Student Code of Conduct and, if applicable, my network privileges may be revoked.

As the student, my signature indicates I have read or had explained to me and understand this Responsible Use of Technology and Internet Safety Agreement, and accept responsibility for abiding by the terms and conditions outlined and using these resources for educational purposes. I understand that this agreement applies to the use of any school equipment used both on and off campus.

Student (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_