

The district's information technology resources are a unique opportunity to enhance instructional methods, appeal to different learning styles, and meet the educational goals of the board. Through these resources, users can observe events as they occur around the world, interact with others on a variety of subjects, and acquire access to current and in-depth information. As this technology is made available in the schools, the use of these resources should be integrated into the educational program. The information technology should be used in teaching the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and in meeting the educational goals of the board. Teachers are expected to incorporate the use of these resources into their lesson plans.

The district's information technology resources are defined as any computer systems, networks, and any configuration of hardware and software, including student laptops. The systems and networks include all of the computer hardware, operating system software, application software, stored text, and data files. This includes electronic mail, local databases, externally accessed databases (such as the internet), CD-ROM, optical media, clip art, digital images, digitized information, communications technologies and new technologies as they become available. This policy applies regardless of whether such use occurs on or off school property, and it applies to all school district technological resources.

ACCEPTABLE USE

Access to the information technology resources will be used to improve learning and teaching consistent with the educational goals of Dare County Schools. Access to these resources is a privilege, not a right. Any users of these resources, including staff and students, must comply with the Acceptable Use regulation (3225-R). Any attempt to violate the provisions of this policy and regulation may result in revocation of the user's access to the information technology resources, regardless of the success or failure of the attempt. In addition, school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. General student and employee behavior standards, including those prescribed in applicable board policies, the Student Code of Conduct and other regulations and school rules, apply to the use of the Internet and other school technological resources.

All students and employees must be informed annually of the requirements of this policy and regulations and the methods by which they may obtain copies of each. Before using school district technological resources, students, their parents, and employees must sign a statement indicating that they understand and will comply with these requirements.

SUPERVISION AND MONITORING

Student use of the information technology resources is supervised by teachers in a manner that is appropriate for the age of the students and circumstances of use. Neither student nor staff use of Dare County Schools information technology resources shall be considered confidential and all use is subject to monitoring by designated staff at any time to ensure appropriate use.

DISCLAIMER

The board makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the service it is providing. The board will not be responsible for any damages suffered by any user. Such damages include, but are not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries or service interruptions, whether caused by the school district's or the user's negligence, errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The school district specifically disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its Internet services.

REGULATIONS

The superintendent shall promulgate regulations to enact this policy. The regulations shall address personal websites and social networking sites, as well as the use of student-owned devices on school property and at school events, consistent with applicable laws.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. Amend. I; 17 U.S.C. 100 et seq.; Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2522; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; G.S. 115C-391, -325(e).

Cross Reference: Curriculum and Instructional Guides (policy 3115), Technology in the Educational Program (policy 3220), Copyright Complaint (policy 3230/7330), Standards of Expected Student Behavior (policy 4310), Public Records (policy 5070), Staff Responsibilities (policy 7300)

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