

CISD Acceptable Use Guidelines for Students

The Conroe Independent School District makes a variety of communications and information technologies available to students through network/internet access. These technologies, when properly used, promote education excellence in the District by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. Illegal, unethical or inappropriate use of these technologies can have dramatic consequences, harming the District, its students, and its employees. These Acceptable Use Guidelines (AUG) are intended to minimize the likelihood of such harm by educating CISD students and parents and setting standards which will serve to protect students.

Parents and students should realize that with this educational opportunity comes responsibility. As much as possible, access from school to Internet resources will be structured in ways that point students to those resources that have been evaluated prior to use. While students will be able to move beyond those resources to others that have not been previewed by staff, they will be provided with guidelines and lists of resources particularly suited to learning objectives.

The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) prohibits children under the age of 13 from creating Internet accounts and providing information about themselves online. From time to time there are educational applications that teachers utilize in the classroom that require the creation of an account. In compliance with COPPA, no personally identifiable student information will be used to access these programs. By agreeing to the Acceptable Use Guidelines, you are granting permission for your child's teacher to supervise and facilitate your child's use of appropriate Web-based 2.0 applications and tools that are for educational purposes. Parents are expected to monitor student use of these Web tools at home. Please notify your child's campus administration in writing if you do not want your student to access these applications/tools while at school.

CISD uses a Web filter to manage access to various inappropriate locations. However, even with a filter, there may still be sites accessible via the Internet that contain materials that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or controversial. Although the District will attempt to limit access to objectionable material by using software, controlling all materials on the Internet is impossible.

Students will be provided email and Internet accounts. Students are responsible for not sharing the password of their account with others. CISD accounts are to be used only for identified educational purposes. Students and parents should be aware that the District monitors all use and communication on its computer system. No communication on the system is private. Students are held responsible at all times for the proper use of their account. The District may suspend or revoke a student account if District rules are violated. Network/Internet access is available to student in the District as a privilege, not a right. The following standards will apply to all users of the Network/Internet.

Uses of the District's Network/Internet will not:

- Use the system for any illegal purpose.
- Disable or attempting to disable any Internet filtering device.
- Encrypt communications to avoid security review.
- Borrow someone's account without permission.
- Use of chat rooms without authorization.
- Post personal information such as addresses or telephone numbers about yourself or others.
- Download or use copyrighted information without permission from the copyright holder.

- Intentionally introduce a virus to the computer system.
- Post messages or access materials that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, illegal, or could be characterized as bullying.
- Waste school resources through the improper use of the computer system.
- Gain unauthorized access to restricted information or resources.

The following consequences may result from inappropriate use of the District's Network/Internet:

- Suspension of access to the system;
- Revocation of the computer system account; or
- Other disciplinary or legal action, in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable laws.