

## **Student Acceptable Use Policy St. Augustine School Diocese of Cleveland**

St. Augustine School makes a variety of communications and information technologies available to students through computer/network/Internet access. These technologies, when properly used, promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Illegal, unethical or inappropriate use of these technologies can have dramatic consequences, harming the school, its students and its employees. The Acceptable Use Policy ("Policy") is intended to minimize the likelihood of such harm by educating the School's students and setting standards that will serve to protect the school. We firmly believe that digital resources, information and interaction available on the computer, network or Internet far outweigh any disadvantages.

**Definition of school technology system:** The school systems and networks (collectively, "System") are any configuration of hardware and/or software whether used on or off school property. The System includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- telephones, cellular telephones, and voicemail technologies;
- email accounts;
- servers;
- desktop and laptop computer hardware and peripherals;
- software including operating system software and application software including without limitation video conferencing software;
- digitized information including stored text, data files, email, digital images, and video and audio files;
- internally or externally accessed databases, applications, or tools (Internet- or District-server based);
- school provided Internet access;
- school filtered public Wi-Fi;
- school provided Chromebooks;
- school provided personal digital assistants ("PDAs"), tablets, IPADs and similar devices;
- school issued access to third party websites (i.e., Google apps, Zoom, Flipgrid, Dojo, etc.); and
- new technologies as they become available.

**Acceptable Use:** Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on the System just as they are in a classroom or on a school playground. Communications on the System are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. It is expected that users will comply with school standards and the specific rules set forth below as interpreted from this policy, whether on or off of school property. A student is personally responsible for his/her actions in accessing and utilizing the school's computer resources in accordance with Student Code of Conduct and may be subject to discipline for misuse of the System.

**Access to communication system:** Access to the school's electronic communications system, including the Internet, shall be made available to students for educational and instructional purposes. Each school computer/device and Wi-Fi (available for students who bring in their own personal telecommunication devices) has filtering software that block access to visual deceptions that are obscene, pornographic, inappropriate for students, or harmful to minors as defined by the federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Filtered Internet access is provided to students as defined by CIPA.

**Access to the School's computer/network/Internet** is a privilege, not a right, and may be revoked at any time.

**Scope of Use:** The System is intended for use for educational and instructional purposes only. Incidental, personal use shall be allowed only so long as such use is appropriate for a school setting, non-disruptive to the school's operations and mission, and not in excess or to the exclusion of the student's studies or school responsibilities.



- d. Avoid accessing, transmitting, copying, or creating material that is illegal (such as obscenity, stolen materials, or illegal copies of copyrighted works).
  - e. Abstain from using the resources to further other acts that are criminal or violate the school's code of conduct.
  - f. Avoid sending spam, chain letters, or other mass unsolicited mailings.
  - g. Refrain from buying, selling, advertising, or otherwise conducting business, unless approved as a school project.
  - h. Avoid posting or disseminating any harassing, demeaning, threatening or immoral comment or visual injurious to the reputation of the school, the parish, the Church or an individual, whether the action occurs on school property or off grounds.
5. Abide by the Student Code of Conduct in the use of the System at all times.

**School Email and Communication tools:** Email and other digital tools such as, but not limited to, blogs and wikis are tools used to communicate. The use of these communication tools should be limited to instructional, school related activities; or administrative needs. All communications within these tools should adhere to this Policy.

**The Use of Video Conferencing:** Staff and students may from time to time use video conferencing software for educational purposes, including without limitation Zoom and Google Hangouts.. . Video conferencing is a way that students can communicate with teachers, other students, speakers, others from their school, local community, and/or other parts of the country and the world, in real time. All students agree to the following related to use of video conferencing software whether or not on school property during use:

- a) Videoconference sessions may be videotaped by school personnel or by a participating school involved in the exchange in order to share the experience.
- b) Students' voices, physical presence, and participation in the videoconference are transmitted to participating sites during each session.
- c) Students are only permitted to transmit audio/video images using the System when all of the following conditions are met (i) it is under teacher's direction, (ii) it is for educational purposes, (iii) it is sent only to other classmates or school staff members, and (iv) it is sent during classroom hours.
- d) Students shall not record any portion of a videoconferencing session without prior written approval from teacher or school administration.
- e) Students shall not save, share, post or distribute in any way any part of a videoconferencing session or any photos or audio recording from a videoconferencing session without prior written approval from teacher or school administration.
- f) All sessions must be set up solely by school personnel and communicated to students and/or parents privately and not through any public domain.
- g) Classroom and school rules apply to all remote learning experiences.

**The following guidelines must be adhered to by students using a personally-owned telecommunication device at school or with the System whether on or off school property:**

- a. All personally-owned telecommunication devices must be registered with the principal prior to use.
- b. Internet access is filtered by the School on personal telecommunication devices in the same manner as School owned equipment. If network access is needed, connection to the filtered, wireless network provided by the school is required. Use of any service bypasses the security filter and is considered a violation of the Acceptable Use Policy.
- c. These devices are the sole responsibility of the student owner. The school assumes no responsibility for personal telecommunication devices if they are lost, loaned, damaged or stolen and only limited time or resources will be spent trying to locate stolen or lost items.
- d. These devices have educational and monetary value. Students are prohibited from trading or selling these items to other students on school property, including school buses.



**STUDENT USER AGREEMENT / PARENT PERMISSION FORM**  
**Both Signatures Required**

By signing below, I agree and acknowledge that I have read the terms and conditions of ~~the Student~~ **Acceptable Use Policy** and I understand that it is a violation of the Policy to use the System, on or ~~Off~~ of school property, to, among other things:

- Bully, harass, threaten, intimidate or engage in discriminatory or abusive conduct ~~or~~ language, including through the use of social media;
- Access websites or content that are inappropriate for the school environment, including without limitation websites or content that are pornographic or obscene;
- Vandalize or tamper with school equipment and/or System settings;
- Engage in criminal or illegal conduct; and/or
- Violate the Student Code of Conduct.

I also understand that:

- Technological resources are provided for instructional and educational purposes only. ~~Incidental,~~ personal use shall be allowed only so long as such use is appropriate for a school setting, non-disruptive to the school's operations and mission, and not in excess or to the exclusion of the student's studies or school responsibilities; and
- My access and use of the System whether on or off school property, including without limitation all devices used by me to access the System, whether personally or school-owned, are subject to monitoring and search and that I have no expectation of privacy in my use or accessing of ~~the~~ System.

I agree to abide by the terms and conditions stated in the Student Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that I am responsible for the consequences of inappropriate use of the System, including the Internet, both on and off of school property and those consequences may include revocation of privileges to access the Internet and/or other technological resources, suspension, expulsion, and/or legal action.

User Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ )

User Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_