

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE/RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY

The Loudoun County School Board provides technologies, including access to internet, to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. The term technology includes hardware, software, data, communication lines and devices, terminals, printers, servers, mainframe and personal computers, the internet and other internal or external networks.

A. Purpose. All use of the Division's technology must be (1) consistent with the educational or instructional mission or administrative function of the Division as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and developmental levels of students and/or research, or (2) for legitimate school business. Loudoun County Public Schools may provide students with access to online educational services and websites through contracts with educational companies and vendors. Students may be provided with a username and password to access educational content on these websites. Use of the computer system is a privilege, not a right.

B. Monitoring. Loudoun County Public Schools routinely monitors an individual's usage of the Division's technology. The normal operation and maintenance of the school division's technical infrastructure and services requires that usage and activity are monitored, data and electronic communications are routinely backed up, and programs or other devices are employed to maintain the functionality, integrity, or security of the network infrastructure. Any communication or material using School Division technology, including electronic mail and documents created, stored, or shared from a user's account, may be monitored, read, recorded, copied, seized, and/or provided to appropriate authorities by school officials without prior notice. Users shall have no right or expectation of privacy. None of the Division's technologies shall constitute a traditional, limited or designated public forum. Students shall not send, receive, view or download illegal materials.

C. Content Filtering. The School Division selected and operates technology protection measures that monitors and filters or blocks Internet access for all devices connected to LCPS and LCPS-OPEN. The protections prevent access to the following:

1. Child pornography;
2. Obscenity; and,
3. Material that the School Division deems to be harmful to students and material that is otherwise inappropriate for students.

D. Technical and Administrative Procedures. The Division Superintendent shall establish technical and administrative procedures containing the appropriate uses, ethics and protocol for the technology. The procedures shall include:

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1. Provisions establishing that the technology protection measure is enforced during any use of the Division's computers by students;
2. Provisions establishing that the online activities of students will be monitored;
3. Provisions designed to educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and Cyber Bullying awareness and response;
4. Provisions designed to prevent unauthorized online access by minors, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online;
5. Provisions prohibiting the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and,
6. A component on Internet safety for students that is integrated in the Division's instructional program.

E. Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT). Personal technology devices are permitted at school and can be used in instructional areas with permission from the teacher. Personal technology devices are permitted to use the LCPS-OPEN wireless network only. Personal technology devices are prohibited from accessing the LCPS network (wired or wireless). All Personal Devices used within school or at school functions must be free from anything that would violate the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook or this policy including the use of a Virtual Private Network (VPN) to subvert the division's protection measures.

F. Signature Form. Each student and parent/guardian of each student shall sign the form attached to the Student Rights and Responsibilities in the Student Handbook or online via ParentVue/StudentVue. By doing so, the student and parent/guardian acknowledge to accept the terms of this policy and the failure of any student to follow the terms of this policy or accompanying regulation may result in loss of computer or network system privileges, disciplinary action as defined in the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook, School Board policy, and/or law.

G. Limited Liability. The Loudoun County School Board is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged or unavailable when using the computer system or for any information retrieved via the Internet. Furthermore, the School Board will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the computer or network system.

H. Review Process. The School Board will review, amend if necessary, and approve this policy every two years.

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[Former Policy 3060]
Adopted: 6/26/18

Legal Refs.: [18 U.S.C. §§ 2256](#); [47 U.S.C. § 254](#); Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ [18.2-372](#), [18.2-374.1:1](#), [18.2-390](#), [22.1-70.2](#), and [22.1-78](#)