

MCPS Internet and Acceptable Use Agreement

The use of the Internet and technology must be in support of education and research and be consistent with the educational objectives of the school system. The use of other organizations' networks or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network.

Transmission of any material in violation of any USA or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material that is protected by a trade secret. Use for commercial activities is not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.

- **Privileges:** The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The school system administrators will deem what is inappropriate use, and their decision is final. Also, system administrators may suspend privileges any time.
- **Net Etiquette:** Students are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include but are not limited to the following:
 - Avoid offensive, inflammatory, or hate speech.
 - Be courteous and polite.
 - Use appropriate language.
 - Profanity or obscenities are not permitted at any time.
 - Do not use the network in any way to disrupt the work of others.
 - All communication and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.
 - Users may not quote personal communications without the author's consent.
- **Vandalism:** Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or other networks that are connected to the Internet backbone. This includes but is not limited to the uploading or creation of computer viruses.
- **An exception to the terms and conditions:** These terms and conditions reflect the entire agreement of the parties and supersede all prior oral and written agreements and understandings of the parties.

With expanded access to electronic information, the availability of appropriate material is not uncommon. Some sites contain illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or offensive information. Although it is impossible to control such misuses, we believe that with responsible use, the benefits of the Internet as an educational tool outweigh the negatives. We especially appreciate partnering with parents/guardians to teach responsible Internet use. Students who are in violation of responsible Internet use may be put on academic probation or be removed from using a device or the Internet for schoolwork.

Additional information for the district's digital citizenship curriculum, please refer to commonsensemedia.org.

By signing below, you are acknowledging that you have read the MCPS Internet and Acceptable Use Policy (above) and will adhere to it as it applies to you the parent and you the student.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

School: _____

Grade level: _____