

North East School Division Acceptable Use Policy Update - November 2011

The North East School Division has updated its acceptable use policy to reflect current practices in technology. Please sign and return to the school.

Our students use technology to learn. Technology is essential to facilitate the creative problem solving, new media literacy, and collaboration that we see in today's democratic societies. While we want our students to be active contributors in our connected world, we also want them to be safe, legal, and responsible. This acceptable use policy (AUP) supports our vision of technology use and upholds in our students a strong sense of digital citizenship.

How the NESD Uses Technology

The technology program within the North East School Division (NESD) develops the new media literacy skills our students require to contribute in a connected world. We use technology to facilitate creativity and innovation, support communication and collaboration as well as extend research and information fluency. Students will develop a sound understanding of technology operations and concepts. Technology can be transformative and students are encouraged to use technology to extend learning.

Digital Citizenship

NESD uses information and technology in safe, legal and responsible ways. It is important that we educate our students accordingly.

We support the following conditions or facets of being a digital citizen.

- **Respect Yourself.** I will select online names that are appropriate and be conscious of the information and images that I view and post online.
- **Protect Yourself.** I will not publish or share my personal details, contact information or a schedule of my activities.
- **Respect Others.** I will not use technologies to bully or tease others.
- **Protect Others.** I will protect others by reporting abuse and by not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications.
- **Protect Intellectual Property.** I will accept and adhere to copyright laws.
- **Respect Intellectual Property.** I will suitably cite any and all use of websites, books, images and media, etc.

Student Personal Electronic Devices

NESD recognizes that students are bringing their own personal electronic devices to school. Such devices include digital cameras, smart phones, tablets etc. Each school in our division has its own guidelines regarding the use of these devices in the school and classroom. NESD provides the following conditions if the devices are to be used in the schools.

- student-owned devices in class may only be used with teacher's expressed permission.
- students may record audio, video and take photos at school with permission from a staff member and those being recorded. School administration may search devices if it is suspected that school rules have been violated.
- if students are accessing wireless mobile services (e.g. 3G), they are under the same usage guidelines and expectations as in the NESD AUP.

The following includes examples, but is not limited to, inappropriate uses of personal electronic devices: harassment, threats, intimidation, electronic forgery, cyberbullying/cyberthreats, invasion of personal rights, cheating on tests/exams, or other forms of illegal behavior during the instructional and non- instructional day. Students are not to use material or text messages to invade personal privacy or harass another person, or disrupt the instructional day, or engage in dishonest acts.

Communication Supported Student Learning

The spirit of education is one of sharing. Web and social media tools (e.g. blogs, Facebook, Twitter) are used to share and connect learners locally and globally. The North East School division subscribes to services such as Google Apps for Education and Voicethread which allow us to control sharing features. We also use various teacher moderated tools where students collaborate online with teacher supervision. These services are to be used for school use only. Some Web 2.0 applications require parent approval for use by students. In this case, a permission form from the school may be sent out to parents to sign.

Please sign to acknowledge the update of the NESD Acceptable Use Policy:

Signature _____

Date: _____