

## **STUDENT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE RULES**

As used herein, the terms “computers” and “computer” refer to any desktop, laptop, or other mobile device owned by the Cape Elizabeth School District, whether kept at school or issued to students for school and/or home use. It also refers to the School District’s servers or wireless Internet connection systems used to access school or web-based information systems.

All students are responsible for their actions and activities involving School District computers and/or school computer services, and for their computer files, passwords and accounts. These rules provide general guidance concerning the use of the school district’s computers and/or school computer services and examples of prohibited uses. The rules do not attempt to describe every possible prohibited activity by students. Students, parents and school staff who have questions about whether a particular activity is prohibited are encouraged to contact a building administrator or the Technology Coordinator. These rules apply to all school computers and/or school computer services regardless of how they are accessed.

### **A. Acceptable Use**

1. Cape Elizabeth School District’s computers and/or school computer services are provided for educational purposes and research consistent with the Cape Elizabeth’s educational mission, curriculum and instructional goals.
2. Students must comply with all Board policies, school rules and expectations concerning student conduct and communications when using school computers and/or school computer services, whether on or off school property.
3. Students also must comply with all specific instructions from school staff and volunteers when using the school district’s computers and/or school computer services.

### **B. Prohibited Uses**

Unacceptable uses of school district computers and/or computer services include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. **Accessing or Communicating Inappropriate Materials** - Students may not access, submit, post, publish forward, download, scan or display defamatory, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, sexually suggestive, threatening, discriminatory, harassing, bullying and/or illegal materials, images (still or video) or messages.
2. **Illegal Activities** - Students may not use the Cape Elizabeth School District’s computers and/or school computer systems for any illegal activity or in

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violation of any Board policy/procedure or school rules. Cape Elizabeth School District assumes no responsibility for illegal activities of students while using school computers and/or school computer systems.

3. **Violating Copyrights or Software Licenses** - Students may not copy, download or share any type of copyrighted materials (including music or films) without the owner's permission (*See Board policy/procedure EGAD: Copyright Compliance*) ~~or copy or download software without the express authorization of the Technology Coordinator.~~ Unauthorized copying of software is illegal and may subject the copier to substantial civil and criminal penalties. The school district assumes no responsibility for copyright or licensing violations by students. Students may not copy or download software without the express authorization of the Technology Coordinator, except that students may download "app" software onto mobile devices issued to high school students provided that those apps do not violate the other provisions of this section regarding "Prohibited Uses." In the event school staff discovers inappropriate materials on a student device, the device may be confiscated and the materials removed without student permission even if it means the loss of student-purchased material, and appropriate restrictions may be placed on the students future computer use. The student/family may be charged for the time of the district's technology staff involved in such processes. The school staff also has the right to confiscate or search district-owned computers from students at any time with or without cause as part of an effort to deter violations of these rules and to confiscate and search student-owned computers on school grounds upon reasonable suspicion of a violation of this "Prohibited Uses" section.
4. **Plagiarism** - Students may not represent as their own work any materials obtained on the Internet (such as term papers, articles, music, etc). When Internet sources are used in student work, the author, publisher and web site must be identified.
5. **Use for Non-School Purposes** - Using the Cape Elizabeth School District's computers and/or school computer systems for any personal reasons not connected with the educational program or school assignments except that students may use mobile devices issued to them as part of the high school initiative so long as those uses do not constitute a violation of the "Prohibited Uses" section of these rules and/or are not interfering with the educational purpose of these devices by the student or others.
6. **Misuse of Passwords/Unauthorized Access** - Students may not share passwords; use other users' passwords; access or use other users' accounts; or

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attempt to circumvent the network security systems and/or school computer systems.

7. **Malicious Use/Vandalism** - Students may not engage in any malicious use, disruption or harm to the Cape Elizabeth School District's computers and/or school computer systems, including but not limited to hacking activities and creation/uploading of computer viruses.
8. **Unauthorized Access to Blogs/Chat Rooms** - Students may not access blogs, social networking sites, etc to which student access is prohibited except that students may use the mobile devices issued to them as part of the high school initiative for educational or personal purposes so long as those uses do not constitute a violation of the "Prohibited Uses" section of these rules and/or are not interfering with the educational purpose of these devices by the student or others.

### **C. Compensation for Losses, Costs and/or Damages**

The student and his/her parents are responsible for compensating the Cape Elizabeth School District for any losses, costs or damages incurred by the school district for violations of Board policies/procedures and school rules while the student is using Cape Elizabeth computers and/or school computer systems, including the cost of investigating such violations. The school district assumes not responsibility for any unauthorized charges or costs incurred by a student while using Cape Elizabeth computer and/or school computer systems. The student and his/her parents/guardians are similarly responsible if the student takes any action with a school-owned computer that has the purpose or effect of voiding any warranty in effect covering such devices or of providing students access to software "apps" that are available other than at the "app store" which such computers are intended to access.

### **D. Student Security**

A student is not allowed to reveal his/her name, address, telephone number, social security number or other personal information on the Internet while using a school computer and/or school computer systems without prior permission from a teacher. Students should never agree to meet people they have contacted through the Internet without parental permission. Students should inform their teacher if they access information or messages that are dangerous, inappropriate or make them uncomfortable in any way.

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### E. System Security

1. The security of the Cape Elizabeth School District's computers and/or school computer systems is a high priority. Any student who identifies a security problem must notify his/her teacher, supervisor, or system administrator immediately. The student shall not demonstrate the problem to others or access unauthorized material.

### F. Additional Rules for Laptops and Other Computers Issued to Students

1. Laptops, school computers and/or school computer systems are loaned to students as an educational tool and may be used for purposes specifically authorized by school staff and the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI) program.
2. Parents of Middle School students are required to attend an informational meeting before a laptop **will be issued** to their child. Both the student and his/her parent must sign the school's acknowledgment form before a laptop or other computer is allowed **to be taken home**; for any such devices that are taken home, a parent/guardian must participate in the Laptop Protection Plan.  
**[GARY--I AM CONFUSED BY THIS. THE LANGUAGE OF THIS SECTION SEEMS TO SAY YOU CAN'T TAKE HOME UNLESS YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE INSURANCE PROGRAM. THE LANGUAGE OF THE SECTION BELOW SEEMS TO SAY THE COVERAGE IS OPTIONAL.]**
3. Students and their families are responsible for the proper care of laptops or other school-owned computers at all times, whether on or off school property, including costs associated with repairing or replacing the laptop or other computer. Cape Elizabeth School District offers an optional Laptop/Mobile Device Protection program for parents to cover replacement costs and/or repair costs for damages not covered by the laptop warranty. **Parents who choose not to participate in the Laptop/Mobile Device Protection plan should be aware that they are responsible for any costs associated with loss, theft or damage to a laptop or other school-owned computer issued to their child.**
4. If a laptop or other school-owned computer is lost or stolen, this must be reported to the teacher and/or building administrator immediately. Additionally, if a laptop or other school-owned computer is stolen, a report should be made to the local police and the school technology coordinator immediately. With respect to the mobile computer devices issued to students at the high school, students must keep activated at all time the service that allows

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those computers to be located remotely and must establish and keep activated at all times a security code which will prevent others from accessing the content and services of a school-owned device.

5. The Board's policy and reules concerning the school computer and/or school computer systems use apply at any time or place, on or off school property. Students are responsible for obeying any additional rules concerning care of laptops or other computers issued by school staff.
6. Violation of policies or rules governing the use of school computers and/or school computer systems, or any careless use of a laptop or other computer may result in a student's school computer being confiscated and/or a student only being allowed to use the school computer under the direct supervision of school staff. The student will also be subject to disciplinary action for any violations of Board policies/procedures or school rules.
7. Any student to whom a school-owned computer is issued must share with the school department any passwords or other security keys to allow the technology staff unlimited access to any and all materials on the computer. Failure to provide such access will result in a school discipline and confiscation or limitation placed on future use of school-owned computer and computer services.
- ~~8~~7. Parents may have access to their child's login password. Parents are responsible for supervising their child's use of the laptop or other computer and Internet access when in use at home.
- ~~9~~ 8. The laptop or other computer may only be used by the student to whom it is assigned and family members to the extent permitted by the MLTI program or these rules.
- ~~10~~ 9. All use of school-owned laptops or other computers by all persons must comply with the school's Student Computer and Internet Use Policy and Rules.
- ~~11~~ 10. Laptops or other computers must be returned in acceptable working order at the end of the school year or when ever requested by school staff.

### **G. Additional Rules for Use of Privately-Owned Computers by Students**

1. A student who wishes to use a privately-owned computer in school must complete a *Student Request to Use Privately-Owned Computer* form. The form must be signed by the student, his/her parent, the building administrator and

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the technology coordinator. There must be an educational basis for any request. In addition, the student must provide to the technology coordinator such information as IP addresses as to enable enforcement of all policies and rules regarding use of school computer services.

2. The Technology Coordinator will determine whether a student's privately-owned computer meets the school district's network requirements.
3. Requests may be denied if it is determined that there is not a suitable educational basis for the request and/or if the demands on the school district's network or staff would be unreasonable.
4. The student is responsible for proper care of his/her privately-owned computer, including an costs of repair, replacement or any modifications needed to use the computer at school.
5. The school district is not responsible for damage, loss or theft of any privately-owned computer.
6. Students are required to comply with all Board policies, administrative procedures and school rules while using school computer services or privately-owned computer at school and elsewhere.
7. Students have no expectation of privacy in their use of school computer services while using a privately-owned computer at school or elsewhere.
8. Violation of any Board policies, administrative procedures or school rules involving a student's use of school computer services or a privately-owned computer may result in the revocation of the privilege of using the computer at school and/or disciplinary action.
9. The school district may seize any privately-owned computer used by a student in school without authorization as required by these rules and the contents of the computer may be searched in accordance with applicable laws and policies. The computer will be returned to the owner when it is no longer needed for investigatory or evidentiary purposes.

Cross Reference: IJNDB: Student Computer and Internet Use  
EGAD: Copyright Compliance

ADOPTED: January 10, 2006

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 12/13/11**

*iPAD Initiative Cmte Revisions (Nov 2011)*

Policy: IJNDB-R

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