

# **Ouachita Parish School System Technology Acceptable Use Policy**

Internet and network resources access is available to students, employees, and guests in the Ouachita Parish School System. We are very pleased to provide this access and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to all of our users. Our goal in providing this service to students, employees, and guests is to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The following *Terms and Conditions of Use* are provided so that network users are aware of their responsibilities. These responsibilities include efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. Please read the *Terms and Conditions of Use* carefully.

## **Terms and Conditions of Use**

### **1. Personal Privacy and Safety**

- a. Users will not reveal any personal contact information about themselves or any other person on the Internet.
- b. Users will not agree to meet with someone they have met on the Internet without appropriate approval. Inappropriate contacts should be reported to school authorities immediately.

### **2. Illegal Activities**

- a. Users will not transmit any material or engage in any activities in violation of any national, state, or local regulations.
- b. Users will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to any network resources including (but not limited to) computer systems and other users' accounts or files.
- c. Users will not attempt to disrupt the network or network resources or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or worms or by any other means.
- d. Users will not attempt to impersonate another individual using network resources for any reason.

### **3. Security**

- a. Users will immediately notify system administrators if a possible security problem is identified. However, purposely looking for security problems may be considered an illegal attempt to gain access.
- b. Users will only use storage media (disks, CDs, pen drives, etc.) that have been scanned and found to be free of viruses.
- c. Users will not attach any device to the network without prior approval by the system administrators.
- d. Users should be aware that all network traffic (including Internet usage and email) is regularly monitored for inappropriate use.
- e. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to network resources.

#### **4. Network Resources**

- a. Users will only use network resources in support of the educational goals and objectives of the Ouachita Parish School System.
- b. Users will not intentionally waste network bandwidth (listening to online radio stations, viewing streaming video, downloading large files, etc.).
- c. Users will not use network resources for commercial purposes.
- d. Users will not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, or disrespectful language in network communications. This includes personally attacking or harassing another person.
- e. Users will not display, download, or transmit any inappropriate materials (including offensive messages, images, and videos).
- f. OPSB.net email accounts are for employees only. Students will not be assigned OPSB.net email accounts.
- g. Users will not send or forward email “chain letters” or send annoying or unnecessary messages.
- h. Users will not send mass email or “spam” any users (internal or external) with unauthorized communications or solicitations.
- i. Users will respect copyrighted material and other intellectual property. Users may not duplicate or distribute electronic resources without the appropriate permissions, documentations, or citations.

#### **5. Software**

- a. Users will not download, store, or install any unapproved or unlicensed software on school system computers.
- b. Users will not install any unauthorized or unlicensed school system software on their personal/home computers.

#### **6. Content Filtering**

- a. Precautions have been taken to eliminate inappropriate content. However, it is impossible to restrict access to all inappropriate content.
- b. Users will immediately report to school authorities any website they access that contains inappropriate content.
- c. Users will not attempt to bypass the district’s content filters to view inappropriate content.

#### **7. Consequences of Inappropriate Use**

- a. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in the temporary or permanent cancellation of that privilege and/or other disciplinary action (including suspension, expulsion, or legal action) as deemed appropriate by administration, faculty, and staff.
- b. Note that no information on the network (including email and personal files) is guaranteed to be private. Information relating to or in support of illegal activities must be reported to the authorities.
- c. Inappropriate use of the network may result in legal action and/or prosecution, and may require restitution for costs associated with system restoration, hardware, or software costs.
- d. Users bringing illegal and/or inappropriate materials onto the network will be subject to disciplinary action.