

Number: 109.2

Section: Programs

**Title: Student Internet and Information
Technology Policy**

Adopted: February 26, 1998

Revised: December 16, 2004

**Mifflin County
School District**

	I. <u>OBJECTIVE</u>	1
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	To outline procedures for the students of the Mifflin County School District to use District technology resources	3
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	II. <u>PROVISIONS</u>	6
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	A. <u>PURPOSE</u>	8
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	All use of the District's computer network resources must be in support of education and research and consistent with the purposes of the Mifflin County School District.	10
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	The Internet will be used to support the District's curriculum, the educational community, projects between schools, communications, and research for District students, teachers, administrators, and other employees.	14
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	B. <u>AUTHORITY</u>	19
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	The Mifflin County School District reserves the right to log, monitor, and evaluate all network, file server, computer, and Internet activity by District users. The District Administration does have the authority to intercept e-mail messages of all users and there will be no privacy right construed by the District to exist in the statements made using network or other computing resources. The District will monitor and filter all Internet traffic. The School District reserves the right to remove a user account from the network to prevent further unauthorized or illegal activity.	21
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EFFECTIVE DATE: January 3, 2005		27
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	Authorization to enforce this policy must be granted by the Chief School Administrator, the Director of Information Systems, or their designee.	30
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	C. <u>STUDENT USER ID PROCEDURES</u>	33
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	1. All students must review this policy on an annual basis.	35
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	2. All students will be given computer and Internet accounts. Parents or guardians who do not want their child to have Internet access must write a letter to their principal requesting access be removed.	37
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3. The Student Internet and Information Technology Policy will be posted on the District's web site and in student handbooks.

D. PROCEDURES FOR USE

All users of the network must comply with the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986, as amended, and the Communications Decency Act. These Acts prohibit the unauthorized interception or disclosure of e-mail messages by third parties, as well as the appropriateness of certain material being remitted on the Internet. The Act does permit interception or disclosure if either the sender or the receiver of the communication consents. Further, the Act recognizes that the School District may monitor any student's e-mail messages, as long as the interception device is included in the e-mail equipment.

Students will report all encounters of inappropriate materials to their teacher.

Network accounts will be used only by the authorized owner of the account for its authorized purpose. Network users shall respect the privacy of other users on the system.

E. PROHIBITIONS

The use of the MCSD computer network resources for an illegal, inappropriate or unethical purpose by students is prohibited. Such purposes include but are not limited to the following:

1. Use of the computer network resources for commercial or for-profit purposes;
2. Use of any email account other than a District assigned account;
3. Use of the network for product advertisement or political lobbying;
4. Allowing another person to use one's password or share one's account;
5. Unauthorized downloading or loading and/or use of games, programs, files, or other electronic media;
6. Unauthorized installation, distribution, reproduction, or use of copyrighted software/materials on MCSD computers;
7. Use of the network which results in any copyright violation;

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8. Use of school technology or the network for fraudulent communications or modification of materials in violation of law. Such actions will be referred to appropriate authorities;
9. Use of the network to facilitate illegal activity;
10. Malicious use of the network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer or system;
11. Use of hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial communications on the network;
12. Use of the network to access or transmit obscene or pornographic material;
13. Use of the network to intentionally obtain or modify files, passwords, or data belonging to other users;
14. Use of the network to misrepresent other users on the network;
15. Disruption, abuse, or destruction of hardware, software or the work of others in any way;
16. Unauthorized use of chat rooms or instant messaging without pre-approval of the Information Systems Department;
17. Circumventing system security, guessing passwords, or in any way gaining unauthorized access to local or network resources;
18. Use of email to send messages to multiple recipients (spamming). Group emails should be limited;
19. The e-mail directory for Mifflin County School District is the property of the Mifflin County School District. Distribution of the MCSD e-mail directory to anyone outside the district is not permitted.
20. Use of the network to violate any section of the Student Policy, including plagiarism and cheating;
21. Use of school digital photographs for personal use.

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F. CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE USE

The user shall be responsible for damages to the equipment, systems, or software resulting from deliberate or willful acts.

Failure to follow the procedures and prohibitions listed above may result in the loss of the right to access to the Internet and/or all computer resources. Appropriate disciplinary procedures may take place, as needed, according to student policy.

Illegal use of the network, intentional deletion or damage to files of data belonging to others, copyright violations, or theft of services will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities for possible prosecution.

G. LIABILITY

The Mifflin County School District will not be held liable for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable due to technical or other difficulties.

H. UPDATING

This policy will be reviewed annually and amended as necessary to meet educational needs and to comply with the law.

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