

## **Electronic Access/User Agreement Form**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The “Acceptable Use Policy” (“AUP”) and this related procedure, set forth the standards governing Fulton County Schools (“FCS”) staff and students’ use of the FCS Electronic Network Related Technologies and Access (“FCS Network”) system. This procedure also sets forth the rules under which authorized users may continue their access to and use of these resources and promotes the ethical, legal, and school-related use of the FCS Network compliance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act of 1998. Personal electronic devices will be governed under this procedure when such devices are attached to the FCS network.

Authorized use of information resources must be consistent with the educational purposes for which these resources have been provided. Use of the FCS Network is a privilege that is provided to help authorized users complete and deliver educational obligations. The FCS Network provides authorized users with the means for communicating effectively with schools, teachers, administrators, the public, other government entities, and educational experts. These resources should be used in a manner that both enhances students’ educational experiences and complies with Board policy and procedures. FCS students, through their use of the FCS Network, will gain skills and expertise that prepare them for an increasingly technology-oriented society.

These procedures are written to support the Acceptable Use Policy and to promote positive and effective digital citizenship among students and staff. Digital citizenship represents more than technology literacy: successful, technologically fluent digital citizens live safely and civilly in an increasingly digital world. We recognize that information posted on the Internet is public and permanent and can have a long-term impact on an individual’s life and career. Expectations for student and staff behavior online are no different than face-to-face interactions.

### **II. DEFINITIONS**

- A. Fulton County Schools’ Electronic Network Related Technologies and Access (“FCS Network”) is the system of computers, terminals, servers, databases, routers, hubs, switches and distance learning equipment connected to the FCS Network and the Internet.
- B. Distance Learning Equipment is a means for providing meetings, educational or professional courseware and workshops utilizing video and/or audio conferencing equipment, and/or media management systems to distribute video to individual classrooms and offices in schools.
- C. Electronic Mail (e-mail) consists of electronically transmitted information including any combinations of text, graphics, audio, pictorial, or other information created on or received by a computer application system and includes the transmission data, message text, and all attachments.
- D. Internet is a worldwide telecommunications system that provides connectivity for myriads of other smaller networks.

**Electronic Access/User Agreement Form****DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)**

- E. Other Electronic Devices include, but are not limited to, cellular telecommunication devices such as cellular phones, pagers, text communication pagers, two-way text pagers, eReaders, and personal digital assistants that may or may not be physically connected to the network infrastructure.
- F. Password is a secret word or series of letters and numbers that must be used to gain access to an online service or the Internet or to modify certain software (such as parental controls).
- G. Authorized Users are any students enrolled in any classes offered by FCS or any staff members employed by FCS.
- H. Website is a collection of "pages" or files on the Internet that are linked together and managed by a company, institution or individual.

**III. GENERAL PROVISIONS****A. AUTHORIZED USERS**

All authorized users shall adhere to the provisions of this procedure as a condition for continued use of the FCS Network. It is a general policy of FCS to promote the use of computers in a manner that is responsible, legal and appropriate anytime there is a connection to the District's hardwired or wireless network.

Except in cases involving students who are eighteen (18) years of age or older, parents/guardians may request to review the contents of their child(ren)'s email files.

Parents/guardians wishing to challenge information accessed via the District's technology resources should refer to Policy 08.2322/Review of Instructional Materials and any related procedures.

**B. DISCLAIMER**

Pursuant to the Children's Internet Protection Act, FCS uses filtering software to screen Internet sites for offensive material. The Internet is a collection of thousands of worldwide networks and organizations that contain millions of pages of information. Users are cautioned that many of these pages contain offensive, sexually explicit, and inappropriate material, including, but not limited to the following categories: Adult Content; Nudity; Sex; Gambling; Violence; Weapons; Hacking; Personals/Dating; Lingerie/Swimsuit; Racism/Hate; Tasteless; and Illegal/Questionable. In general it is difficult to avoid at least some contact with this material while using the Internet. Even innocuous search requests may lead to sites with highly offensive content. Additionally, having an e-mail address on the Internet may lead to receipt of unsolicited e-mail containing offensive content. Authorized users accessing the Internet do so at their own risk. No filtering software is one hundred percent effective and it is possible that the software could fail. In the event that the filtering software is unsuccessful and students and staff gain access to inappropriate and/or harmful material, the Board will not be liable. To minimize these risks, use of the FCS Network is governed by the Acceptable Use Policy. If users are able to view questionable content, the website(s) in question should immediately be reported to appropriate school administration and/or the Computer Operations Manager.

**Electronic Access/User Agreement Form****IV. TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR USE OF THE DCPS NETWORK****A. ACCEPTABLE USES**

FCS staff and students may use the various resources provided by the FCS Network to pursue educationally-related activities. Teachers and other staff should help guide students in their use of the FCS Network so that students will learn how Internet resources such as discussion boards, instant messaging and chat rooms can provide valuable educational information from classrooms, schools, and other national and international sources. In addition to using the FCS Network strictly for educational pursuits, students will be expected to follow generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others.
2. Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
3. Keep personal information, including the logins, passwords, addresses, and telephone numbers of students or colleagues confidential.
4. Use these resources so as not to disrupt service to other student authorized users.
5. Do not upload, post, e-mail, transmit, or otherwise make available any content that is unlawful, dangerous or may cause a security risk.

**B. UNACCEPTABLE USES**

Improper use of the FCS Network is prohibited. Actions that constitute unacceptable uses of the FCS Network and are not specifically addressed elsewhere in this procedure include, but are not limited to:

1. Use of the FCS Network for, or in support of, any illegal purposes.
2. Use of the FCS Network for, or in support of, any obscene or pornographic purposes including, but not limited to, the retrieving or viewing of any sexually explicit material. If an authorized user inadvertently accesses such information, s/he should immediately disclose the inadvertent access to a teacher or to the school Principal. This will protect the user against allegations of intentionally violating this procedure.
3. Use of the FCS Network for soliciting or distributing information with the intent to incite violence, cause personal harm or bodily injury, or to harass or “stalk” another individual.
4. Non-educational uses of the FCS Network including, but not limited to games, wagering, gambling, junk mail, chain letters, jokes, private business activities, raffles, fundraisers, religious activities or political lobbying.
5. Use of profanity, obscenity or language that is generally considered offensive or threatening to persons of a particular race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or to persons with disabilities.
6. Plagiarizing any information gained on or through use of the FCS Network or any other network access provider.

**Electronic Access/User Agreement Form****B. UNACCEPTABLE USES (continued)**

7. Using copyrighted materials, including commercial software, without permission of the copyright holder, and in violation of state, federal or international copyright laws. (If students are unsure whether or not they are using materials in violation of copyright provisions, they should ask their teachers or a school technology coordinator for assistance. School-based personnel are encouraged to contact the Public Relations Department if they have questions regarding use of copyright materials found through the FCS Network.)
8. Violating of any provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) which governs students' rights to privacy and the confidential maintenance of certain information including, but not limited to, a student's grades and test scores is prohibited.
9. Using the FCS Network for personal financial gain or for the transaction of any business or commercial activities.

**C. SECURITY**

All authorized users are to report promptly any breaches of security violations of acceptable use and the transmission of web addresses or e-mail information containing inappropriate material (as outlined in Section III B) to appropriate school personnel. Authorized personnel will report such breaches to the Computer Operations Manager or Superintendent /designee. Failure to report any incident promptly may subject the authorized user to corrective action consistent with the school-based code of discipline or staff code of conduct, in conjunction with Board rules and policies.

In order to maintain the security of the FCS System, students are prohibited from engaging in the following actions:

1. Connecting to any network other than the FCS-provided network when available.
2. Intentionally disrupting the use of the FCS Network for other users, including, but not limited to, disruptive use of any processes or programs, sharing logins and passwords or utilizing tools for ascertaining passwords, or engaging in "hacking" of any kind, which is an illegal or unlawful entry into an electronic system to gain unauthorized information.
3. Intentionally spreading computer viruses or programs that loop repeatedly, or for the purpose of infiltrating a network or computer system without authorization or for damaging or altering without authorization the software components of a network or computer system.
4. Exposing and/or disclosing the contents or existence of FCS computer files, confidential documents, e-mail correspondence, or other information to anyone other than authorized recipients. Authorized users must not share logins or password(s) and unauthorized information regarding other users' passwords or security systems.
5. Downloading/running games, programs, files, electronic media, and/or stand-alone applications from the Internet that may cause a threat to the FCS Network and/or its performance.

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### **V. STUDENT ePUBLICATIONS**

Student authorized users may electronically publish as a part of a class activity. Material presented on a student's class activity publication site must meet the educational objectives of the class activity. FCS has the right to exercise control over the content and/or style of the student ePublications. Students must use their state-issued email address to authenticate any third party application which allows publication of school-assigned material.

Students whose work, likeness (as captured by photograph, video or other media) or voices are presented on a student ePublication shall be identified by first name only for confidentiality and safety purposes.

### **VI. NO PRIVACY GUARANTEE**

The Superintendent/designee has the right to access information stored in any user directory, on the current user screen, or in electronic mail. S/he may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that individuals are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect files stored on District servers or through District provided or sponsored technology services, to be private.

### **VII. ASSUMPTION OF RISK**

FCS will make a good faith effort to keep the FCS Network system and its available information accurate. However, authorized users acknowledge that there is no warranty of any kind, either express or implied, regarding the accuracy, quality, or validity of any of the data or information available. For example, and without limitation, FCS does not warrant that the FCS Network will be error free or free of computer viruses. In making use of these resources, authorized users agree to release the Board from all claims of any kind, including claims for direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages of any nature, arising from any use or inability to use the network, and from any claim for negligence in connection with the operation of the FCS Network. Authorized users further acknowledge that the information available through interconnecting networks may be inaccurate. FCS has no ability to maintain such information and has no authority over these materials. FCS makes no warranty of any kind, either express or implied, regarding the accuracy, quality, or validity of the data and/or information residing on or passing through the FCS Network from outside networks. Use of the FCS Network is at the risk of the authorized user.

### **VIII. INDEMNIFICATION**

The authorized user indemnifies and holds the Board harmless from any claims, including attorney's fees, resulting from the user's activities while utilizing the FCS Network that cause direct or indirect damage to the user, FCS, or third parties.

### **IX. SANCTIONS**

Additional rules and regulations may be found in District handbooks and/or other documents. Violations of these rules and regulations may result in loss of access/usage as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

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User's Name _____			
<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First Name</i>	<i>Middle Initial</i>	
User's Address _____			
<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip Code</i>	
If applicable, User's Grade/School _____		Homeroom/Classroom _____	

Please check if you are a  student  certified employee  classified employee.

As a user of the Fulton County School District's computer network, I hereby agree to comply with the District's Internet and electronic mail rules and to communicate over the network in a responsible manner while abiding by all relevant laws and restrictions. I further understand that violation of the regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked and school disciplinary action and/or legal action may be taken.

User's Name (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*User's Signature* *Date*

**PRIOR TO THE STUDENT'S BEING GRANTED INDEPENDENT ACCESS PRIVILEGES, THE FOLLOWING SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED FOR STUDENTS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE:**

As the parent or legal guardian of the student (under 18) signing above, I grant permission for my child to access networked computer services such as electronic mail and the Internet. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes; however, I also recognize that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, and I accept responsibility for guidance of Internet use by setting and conveying standards for my child to follow when selecting, sharing, researching, or exploring electronic information and media.

**CONSENT FOR USE**

By signing this form, you hereby accept and agree that your child's rights to use the electronic resources provided by the District and/or the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) are subject to the terms and conditions set forth in District policy/procedure. Please also be advised that data stored in relation to such services is managed by the District pursuant to policy 08.2323 and accompanying procedures. You also understand that the e-mail address provided to your child can also be used to access other electronic services or technologies that may or may not be sponsored by the District, which provide features such as online storage, online communications and collaborations, and instant messaging. Use of those services is subject to either standard consumer terms of use or a standard consent model. Data stored in those systems, where applicable, may be managed pursuant to the agreement between KDE and designated service providers or between the end user and the service provider. Before your child can use online services, he/she must accept the service agreement and, in certain cases, obtain your consent.

Name of Parent/Guardian (Please print) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent/Guardian* *Date*

Daytime Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES THE DISTRICT TO MONITOR ONLINE ACTIVITIES OF MINORS.**

Review/Revised:6/21/12