

MIDDLETOWN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENT USE OF TECHNOLOGY – ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

The mission of Middletown Unified School District (District) is to improve learning and teaching through interpersonal communication, student access to information, research, teacher training, collaboration, and dissemination of successful education practices, methods, and materials.

Rights and Responsibilities: The District will be connected to the internet through the Lake County Office of Education. This connection will provide access to local, national, and international sources of information and collaboration vital to intellectual inquiry in a democracy. In return for this access, every Digital Library user has the responsibility to respect and protect the rights of every other user in our community and on the internet. Students are expected to act in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner, in accordance with the District Internet Code of Conduct, the missions and purposes of the other networks they use on the internet, and the laws of the states and the United States.

District Internet Code of Conduct: The Internet Code of Conduct applies to all users of the District network. It reads: “I will strive to act in all situations with honesty, integrity and respect for the rights of others and to help others to behave in a similar fashion. I will make a conscious effort to be of service to others and to the community. I agree to follow the access, usage, and content rules as stated below.”

Usage Guidelines: The internet user is held responsible for his/her actions and activity within his/her access. Unacceptable uses of the network will result in the suspension or revoking of these privileges. Some examples of such unacceptable use are:

1. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts.
2. Using the network for financial or commercial gain.
3. Degrading or disrupting equipment, software, or system performance.
4. Vandalizing the data of another user.
5. Wastefully using finite resources.
6. Gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities.
7. Invading the privacy of individuals.
8. Using an account owned by another user.
9. Posting personal communications without the original author’s consent.
10. Posting anonymous messages.
11. Downloading, storing, or printing files or messages that are profane, obscene, or that use language that offends or tends to degrade others.
12. Violating the Content Guidelines as outlined below.

Content Guidelines: Students will be allowed to produce materials for electronic publication on the internet. Network administrators will monitor these materials to ensure compliance with content standards. The content of student materials is constrained by the following restrictions:

1. No personal information about a student will be allowed. This includes home/cell phone numbers and addresses as well as information regarding the specific location of any student at any given time.
2. All student works must be signed with the student’s full name.
3. Individuals in pictures, movies, or sound recordings may be identified only by initials (e.g. JQP for John Q. Public). Absolutely no first or last names may appear in reference to individuals in any image, movie, or sound recording.
4. No text, image, movie, or sound that contains pornography, profanity, obscenity, or language that offends or tends to degrade others will be allowed.
5. Online Etiquette- Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
 - b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities, or any other inappropriate language.
 - c. Do not reveal personal addresses, social media accounts, phone numbers, or passwords of students, teachers, administrators, and/or yourself.

- d. Note that email is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
- e. Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
- f. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property (i.e. copyrighted).
- g. Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial behaviors are prohibited on the network. Therefore, any messages should not contain profanity, obscene comments, sexually explicit material, expressions of bigotry, or hate.
- h. Student subscriptions to Listservs are not allowed.
- i. From time to time, District system administrators will make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are consistent with the acceptable use practice.

Middletown Unified School District Consent and Waiver Form: By signing the District Acceptable Use Agreement, the requester and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) agree to abide by the restrictions outlined in this agreement policy. The student and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) should discuss these rights and responsibilities. Ultimately, parent(s) and guardian(s) of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their child or ward should follow. To that end, the District supports and respects each family’s right to decide whether or not to apply for internet access.

The specific conditions and services being offered may change from time to time. The District makes no warranties with respect to internet service or content. Further, the requester and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) should be aware that the District does not have control of the information on the internet, nor can it provide barriers to account holders accessing the full range of information available. Other sites accessible via the internet may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. Similarly, while the District supports the privacy of email, account users must assume that this cannot be guaranteed.

The District believe that the benefits to educators and students from access to the internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, far exceed any disadvantages of access. We hope you and your student will join us on the internet.

ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

Student: I understand and will abide by the above Acceptable Use Agreement. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be instituted.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Student Name (Print)	Student Signature	Date	Grade

Parent or Guardian: As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Agreement, I understand that this access is designated for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for the District to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the District (or any of its personnel) responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept responsibility for supervision if and when my student’s use of downloaded material is not in a school setting. I hereby give my permission to allow internet access for my student. I authorize the Middletown Unified School District to enforce the above provisions against my student, on my behalf.

_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Name (Print)	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date