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Book Ogdensburg City School District

Section 4000 Instruction

Title COMPUTER USE IN INSTRUCTION (or ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY)

Code 4526

Status First Reading

Last Revised August 20, 2025

( ) Required

(X) Local

(X) Notice

The Board of Education is committed to optimizing student learning and teaching. The Board considers student access to a district's computer system ("DCS" hereafter), including the Internet, to be a powerful and valuable educational and research tool, and encourages the use of computers and computer-related technology in district classrooms for the purpose of advancing and promoting learning and teaching.

The DCS can provide a forum for learning various software applications and through online databases, bulletin boards and electronic mail, can significantly enhance educational experiences and provide statewide, national and global communication opportunities for staff and students.

The Board will provide access to various computerized information resources through the District's computer system ("DCS") consisting of software, hardware, computer networks, and electronic communications systems. This may include access to email, on-line services, and the Internet. It may include the opportunity for some students to have independent access to the DCS from their home or other remote locations. All use of the DCS, including independent use off school premises, will be subject to this policy. Further, all DCS use must be in support of education or research and consistent with the goals and purposes of the District.

Access to Inappropriate Content/Material and Use of Personal Technology or Electronic Devices

This policy is intended to establish general guidelines for the acceptable student use of the DCS and also to give students and parents or guardians notice that student use of the DCS will provide student access to external computer networks not controlled by the District. The District cannot screen or review all of the available content or materials on these external computer networks, thus, some of the available content or materials on these external networks may be deemed unsuitable for student use or access by parents or guardians.

It is virtually impossible to completely prevent access to content or material that may be considered inappropriate for students. Students may have the ability to access this content or material from their home, other locations off school premises and/or with a student's own personal technology or electronic device on school grounds or at school events. Parents and guardians should establish boundaries and standards for the appropriate and acceptable use of technology and communicate these boundaries and standards to their children. The acceptable use standards outlined in this policy apply to student use of technology via the DCS or any other electronic media or communications, including by means of a student's own personal technology or electronic device on school grounds or at school events.

Standards of Acceptable Use

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Generally, the same standards of acceptable student conduct which apply to any school activity apply to use of the DCS. This policy does not attempt to articulate all required and/or acceptable uses of the DCS; nor is it the intention of this policy to define all inappropriate usage.

District students must also adhere to the laws, policies, and rules governing computers including, but not limited to, copyright laws, rights of software publishers, license agreements, and student rights of privacy created by federal and state law.

Students who engage in unacceptable use of the DCS may lose access in accordance with applicable due process procedures, and may be subject to further discipline in accordance with the District Code of Conduct.

With increased concern about identity theft, unwarranted invasion of privacy and the need to protect personally identifiable information, prior to students being directed by staff to use any cloud-based educational software/application, staff must get approval from the Assistant Superintendent in consultation with the Ed Tech Coordinator. The Assistant Superintendent will determine if a formal contract is required or if the terms of service are sufficient to address privacy and security requirements, and if parental permission is needed.

All users of the DCS and the Internet must understand that use is a privilege, not a right, and that use entails responsibility. The district reserves the right to control access to the Internet for all users of its computers and DCS. Student data files and other electronic storage areas are considered District property subject to control and inspection. The Computer Coordinator may access all files and communications without prior notice to ensure system integrity and that users are complying with the requirements of this policy. Students should not expect that information stored on the DCS will be private.

## Notification/Authorization

The District's AUP will be disseminated to parents and students in order to provide notice of the school's requirements, expectations, and students' obligations when accessing the DCS.

Cross-ref:

5300, Code of Conduct 5695, Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices

Adoption date: