

BGMS Student Internet and Technology Responsible Use Policy

Boone Grove Middle School believes that students need access to technology and when they act in a responsible, efficient, courteous, and legal manner supporting the district's mission, goals and student initiatives.

The mission of the Boone Grove Middle School 1:1 Digital Learning Initiative is to use technology effectively to increase student engagement thereby increasing student achievement in all areas. All students will be immersed in a technology rich environment, which motivates, engages and challenges students to learn 21st century skills, as it will be an integral part of virtually every aspect of daily life.

It is important that users understand their responsibilities and conduct themselves as responsible learners at all times. Responsible uses of technology are devoted to activities that support teaching and learning. The following statements represent the students' agreement about the responsible use of technology.

I will:

- Bring my iPad to school **fully charged** each day.
- Keep private information private. (My password and identity are mine and not to be shared with anyone other than my parent/guardian).
- Treat others with respect, both online and offline.
- Strive to be a responsible digital citizen.
- Encourage others to be good digital citizens.
- Use computers for school-related purposes during school hours.
- Credit my sources when I am using other people's information, images or other material.
- Respect the work of other students and not copy, alter or otherwise damage work that is not mine.
- Follow BGMS policies, rules and regulations.
- Take care of technology equipment.
- Notify an adult immediately if I violate the Responsible Use Policy.

I will not:

- Read another student's private communications and schoolwork without permission.
- Use improper language or pictures
- Use any form of electronic communication to harass, intimidate, ridicule, or otherwise harm others.
- Pretend to be someone else online
- Give out my full name, address or other personal information to someone I don't know.
- Give out names, addresses or any other personal information of others.
- Take pictures and/or record audio/video without the consent of that student or staff member.
- Search for, possess, read, view or copy inappropriate pictures or information.
- Damage, change or tamper with the hardware or network in any way.
- Decorate the iPad with stickers, writing or other markings.

I understand:

- My work can be lost and I should be careful to backup important work.
- The Internet and Porter Township School Corporation technology may not work at all times.
- Not all content available on the Internet is true.
- It is my responsibility to validate information or research on the Internet.
- The use of the Internet provided by Porter Township School Corporation is a privilege and not a right.
- The full use of the iPad is a privilege and not a right.
- The iPad is the sole property of the Porter Township School Corporation.
- School personnel have full authority over the iPad.

Consequences for misuse:

- School administrators may revoke the use of iPad features due to my poor performance in academics, attendance and/or behavior.
- I may be disciplined at school up to and including suspension or expulsion if I act irresponsibly.

The Board of School Trustees of the Porter Township School Corporation recognizes the importance of technology education and computer access in preparing students. While the district's intent is to make Internet access available in order to further educational goals and objectives in the high school, not all information which can be accessed from external networks is appropriate to the education of our students; consequently, administration shall develop an agreement for the use of external networks which shall specify guidelines to help ensure appropriate utilization by students and staff members. Additionally, it is the intention of this policy to have student Internet activities monitored by the school corporation to ensure students are not accessing inappropriate sites. Each school corporation computer with internet access, and available to students, will have a filtering device or software that blocks and/or monitors access to visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, inappropriate for students, or harmful to minors. All staff members and students will be expected to sign the agreement before using an external network. The provision of this policy and the content of the accompanying exhibit are subordinate to local, state and federal statute.

Porter Township School Corporation firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the District.

INTERNET/TECHNOLOGY – TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1.) *Acceptable Use* – The use of your account must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the Porter Township School Corporation.

2.) *Privileges* – The use of the Internet/computer is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. (Each student/staff member who receives an account will be part of a discussion with a BGMS faculty member pertaining to the proper use of the network.) The system administrators will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. Also, the system administrators may close an account at any time as required. The administration, faculty, and staff of BGMS may request the system administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user accounts.

3.) *Disclaimer* – Boone Grove Middle School makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. BGMS will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. BGMS specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

4.) *Security* – If you feel you can identify a security problem on the system, you must notify a system administrator. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be restricted of user privileges.

5.) *Prohibitions* – Users of the Porter Township School Corporation Internet resources and computer accounts may not:

- a.) Access, upload, download or distribute pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit materials.
- b.) Transmit obscene, abusive or sexually explicit language.
- c.) Violate any local, state or federal statute.
- d.) Vandalize, damage or disable the property of another person or organization. This would include uploading or downloading e-mail attachments and executable files infected with a virus.
- e.) Access another person's materials, information or files without the implied or direct permission of the person.
- f.) Violate copyright or otherwise use another person's intellectual property without his or her prior approval or proper citation.