

CORY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACCEPTABLE USE AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

Overview:

The Corry Area School District provides technology resources to its students and staff to assist in the educational process. We believe these resources offer vast, diverse, and unique opportunities to both students and staff. Our goal in providing this service to students and staff is to provide educational excellence in the district by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Students and staff are responsible for appropriate behavior on computer networks. With access to these technology resources comes the availability of material that may not be considered of educational value in the context of the school setting. Despite the availability of filters and blocking software, students and staff may nevertheless gain access to electronic information that may not be reliable or appropriate. In such cases, general school rules for behavior and communications apply.

Students and staff are expected to use the district network, hardware and internet connection as educational resources. The Corry Area School District is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network or for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. The Corry Area School District will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet. The following procedures and guidelines are used to help ensure appropriate use of technology resources, including the Internet, at the Corry Area School District. All CASD resources must be used appropriately. This Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy (ISP), in conjunction with the District's Acceptable Use of Internet Policy #815 and Use of Electronic Communications Policy #815.1, are intended to address the following requirements set by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):

1. Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web
2. The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communication
3. Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online
4. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
5. Measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors
6. Monitoring the on-line activities of minors

Students are on notice that the District has implemented technology protection measures that blocks or filters Internet access by students to visual depictions that are (1) sexually explicit or obscene, or (2) pornographic, specifically including child pornography, or (3) harmful to minors (e.g., pictures or visual depictions which, taken as a whole, appeal to a prurient interest in nudity, sex or perverted or lewd acts). The District has also implemented technology protection measures with respect to any District computers that blocks or filters Internet access by adults to visual depictions that are (1) sexually explicit or obscene, or (2) child pornography. An administrator, supervisor or other person authorized by the District may disable the filter during use by an adult for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Expectations in use of technology resources, including the Internet:

1. All use of the system must be in support of education and consistent with the mission of the Corry Area School District. The District reserves the right to prioritize use and access to the system.
2. Any use of the system must be in conformity to state and federal law network provider policies and licenses and district policy.
3. Users shall not access inappropriate material on the Internet, including but not limited to: hate mail, discriminatory remarks, and/or offensive or inflammatory communication, pornography, obscenity, child pornography, or other materials that may be "harmful to minors."
4. Any use of the system for commercial or for-profit purposes, product advertisement, political lobbying, or illegal activity is prohibited.
5. No use of the system shall serve to disrupt the operation of the system by others; system components including hardware or software shall not be destroyed, modified or abused in any way.
6. Malicious use of the system to develop programs that harass other users or gain unauthorized access to any computer or computing system and/or damage the components of a computer or computing system is prohibited.
7. Users are responsible for the appropriateness and content of material they transmit or publish on the system. Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, or other antisocial behaviors are expressly prohibited.
8. Use of the system to access, store or distribute obscene or pornographic material is prohibited.

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9. Users of the system should have no expectation of privacy in connection with any aspect of the District's technology resources. The District has the right to monitor electronic email, internet usage and any other use of technology to assure compliance with this policy and for any other legitimate reason. Such monitoring may be done, with, or without the user's knowledge.
10. Users should have a specific reason to use the Internet.
11. Any site that is visited on the Internet should have educational value.

Security

1. System accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose. Users may not share their account number or password with another person or leave an open file or session unattended or unsupervised. Account owners are ultimately responsible for all activity under their account.
2. Users shall not seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the system, or attempt to gain unauthorized access to the system.

Personal Security

1. Personally identifiable information concerning students may not be disclosed or used in any way on the Internet or electronic communication without the permission of a parent or guardian or, if the student is 18 or over, the permission of the student himself/herself.
2. Users should never give out private or confidential information about themselves or others on the Internet, particularly credit card numbers and Social Security numbers.
3. Only a member of the school administration may authorize the release of student information
4. Students should notify their teacher or other adult whenever they come across information or messages that are dangerous, inappropriate or make them feel uncomfortable.

Copyright

1. The unauthorized installation, use, storage or distribution of copyrighted software or materials on district computers is prohibited.
2. Users will not quote personal communications in a public forum without the original author's prior consent.

General Use

1. Diligent effort must be made to conserve system resources. For example, users should frequently delete E-mail and unused files.
2. No person shall have access to the system without having received appropriate training; a signed Acceptable Use Policy must be on file with the district. Students under the age of 18 must have the approval of a parent or guardian.
3. Nothing in these regulations is intended to preclude the supervised use of the system while under the direction of a teacher or other approved user acting in conformity with district policy and procedure.
4. Corry Area School District retains ownership and rights of access to all files stored on the equipment under the control of the agency.

Online Safety and Privacy:

1. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement administrative procedures that ensure students are educated on network etiquette and other appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Enforcement of Policy:

Corry Area School District uses a technology protection measure that blocks or filters access to some World Wide Web sites that are not in accordance with the policy of Corry Area School District. This measure protects against access by adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or – with respect to use of computers with Internet access by minors – harmful to minors. Filtering may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes. To ensure enforcement of the policy, Corry Area School District will monitor use of technology resources through direct supervision, monitoring Internet use history, or various software and hardware tools.

Violation of this Policy:

Violation of Corry Area School District's Acceptable Use and Internet Safety Policy in any way may result in suspension or the loss of the privilege to access the Internet and World Wide Web or other technology resources provided by the district. Other disciplinary action may be taken in accordance with existing CASD policy. When necessary, the Corry Area School District may call in law enforcement agencies.