

## ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER SYSTEM USE

The Regional School Board provides a computer system, including the internet, to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. The term computer system includes, but is not limited to, hardware, software, data, communication lines and devices, terminals, printers, CD-ROM devices, tape or flash drives, servers, mainframe and personal computers, tablets, cellular phones, smart telephones, the internet and other internal or external networks.

All use of the school's computer system must be (1) in support of education and/or research, or (2) for legitimate school business. Use of the computer system is a privilege, not a right. Any communication or material generated using the computer system, including electronic mail, instant or text messages, tweets, or other files deleted from a user's account, may be monitored, read, and/or archived by school officials.

The director establishes for the Regional School Board's approval procedures which contain the appropriate uses, ethics, and protocol for the computer system pursuant to §22.1-70.2.

Procedures include:

- (1) a prohibition against use by school employees and students of the school's computer equipment and communications services for sending, receiving, viewing or downloading illegal material via the internet;
- (2) provisions, including the selection and operation of a technology protection measure for the school's computers having internet access to filter or block internet access through such computers, that seek to prevent access to:
  - (a) child pornography as set out in Va. Code § 18.2-374.1:1 or as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2256;
  - (b) obscenity as defined by Va. Code § 18.2-372 or 18 U.S.C. § 1460; and
  - (c) material that the school deems to be harmful to juveniles as defined in Va. Code § 18.2-390, material that is harmful to minors as defined in 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(7)(G), and material that is otherwise inappropriate for minors;
- (3) provisions establishing that the technology protection measure is enforced during any use of the school's computers;
- (4) provisions establishing that all usage of the computer system may be monitored;
- (5) provisions designed to educate students and employees about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with students and other individuals on social networking websites, blogs, in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response;

- (6) provisions designed to prevent unauthorized online access by minors, including “hacking” and other unlawful online activities.;
- (7) provisions prohibiting the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of photographs and/or personal information of or regarding minors;
- (8) a component of internet safety for students that is integrated in the school’s instructional program; and
- (9) provisions cautioning Regional School Board employees about communicating with students on a one-on-one basis through social media.

Use of the school’s computer system shall be consistent with the educational or instructional mission or administrative function of the school as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and developmental levels of students.

The school’s computer system is not a public forum.

Each teacher, administrator, student and parent/guardian of each student shall sign the Acceptable Computer System Use Agreement, Form 2065-F1 or Form 2065-F2, before using the school’s computer system. The failure of any student, teacher or administrator to follow the terms of the Agreement, this policy or accompanying regulation may result in loss of computer system privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

The Regional School Board is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged or unavailable when using the computer system or for any information retrieved via the Internet. Furthermore, the Regional School Board will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the computer system.

The Regional School Board will review, amend if necessary, and approve this policy every two years.

Adopted: September 18, 2014

---

Legal Refs: 18 U.S.C. §§ 1460, 2256.  
47 U.S.C. § 254.

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 18.2-372, 18.2-374.1:1, 18.2-390, 22.1-70.2, and 22.1-78.

Cross Refs.: Pol 5020 Professional Staff Discipline  
Pol 2065 Acceptable Computer System Use  
Under Dev Student Conduct  
Under Dev Standards of Student Conduct