

ANNA YATES MIDDLE SCHOOL | ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

Acceptable Use

The purpose for schools having access to the internet is to enhance teaching and learning by providing access to 21st century tools and resources as well as online instruction. Use of another organization's data networks (e.g. cell phone carriers) or computing resources must comply with rules of the network as well as district user policies.

Students will have access to:

- Information, online databases and news from a variety of sources and research institutions
- Variety of District provided web-based and software programs
- Collaborative web-based programs for the purpose of project-based learning
- Online courses and curriculum, academic software and electronic learning resources

Responsibilities

Emery Unified has taken reasonable precautions to restrict access to "harmful matter" and to materials that do not support approved educational objectives. "Harmful matter" refers to material that, taken as a whole by the average person applying contemporary statewide standards, describes in an offensive way material that lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors. (Penal Code, section 313). The staff will choose resources on the Internet that are appropriate for classroom instruction and/ or research for the needs, maturity, and ability of their students. Emery Unified takes no responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information from internet sources. Use of any information obtained through the internet is at the user's risk.

Network Rules and Etiquette

The use of District technology is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of those privileges. Depending on the seriousness of the offense, the administration may deny, revoke or suspend specific user access. The use of technology requires that students abide by district rules of network use and etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Be polite. Do not send abusive messages to anyone.
- Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language. Anything pertaining to illegal activities is strictly forbidden.
- Maintain privacy. Do not reveal the personal address, phone numbers, personal web sites or images of yourself or other persons.
- Respect copyrights. All communications and information accessible via the network are assumed to be the property of the author and should not be reused without his/her permission. Plagiarism of Internet resources will be treated in the same manner as any other incidences of plagiarism.
- Do not disrupt the network. The use of anonymous proxies (VPNs) to get around content filtering is strictly prohibited and is a direct violation of this agreement.

Prohibited Uses

Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state law, and district policy is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, the distribution of:

- Information that violates or infringes upon the rights of any other person
- Bullying by using information and communication technologies (cyber-bullying)
- Defamatory, inappropriate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive or illegal material
- Advertisements, solicitations, commercial ventures or political lobbying
- Information that encourages use of controlled substances or use of the system for the purpose of inciting crime
- Material that violates copyright laws
- Vandalism, unauthorized access, "hacking," or tampering with hardware or software, including introducing "viruses" or pirated software, is strictly prohibited (Penal Code, Section 502). Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges.

Cyber-Bullying

Cyber-bullying is the use of any electronic communication device to convey a message in any form (text, image, audio, or video) that intimidates, harasses, or is otherwise intended to harm, insult, or humiliate another in a deliberate, repeated, or hostile and unwanted manner. Using personal communication devices (cell phones) or district property to cyber-bully one another is strictly prohibited and may result in the cancellation of technology privileges and /or disciplinary action.

Cyber-bullying may include but is not limited to:

- Spreading information or pictures to embarrass
- Heated unequal argument online that includes making rude, insulting or vulgar remarks
- Isolating an individual from his or her peer group
- Using someone else's username/password and pretending to be that person
- Forwarding information or pictures meant to be private

Cell Phone Policy

The use of Cell Phones during instructional time (8:30am - 3:00pm) without the permission of the teacher, or in a disruptive manner in the school setting, is prohibited. Students may have Cell Phones and mobile communication devices on their person before and after school. Use of such devices in classrooms will be prohibited. No student shall use a Cell Phone or Mobile Communication Device to violate any student code of conduct, including acceptable-use agreements, and/or bullying policies.

Examples of unacceptable usage during the school day can include but are not limited to: in restrooms, hallways, cafeteria, during instructional time, social media, cheating, cyber-bullying, etc. In such cases, parents may be contacted to claim the student's cell phone or other electronic devices from a school administrator. If parents/guardians need to contact their child, please call the front office at: (510) 601-4000, as to not disrupt instructional time.

The student assumes all risks in bringing such devices onto school property or to school related functions. This notice is in accordance with Education Code sections 48901.5 and 51512, District Board Policy 5131, and Administrative Regulation 5131.6.

Student Expectations

I have read, understand and will follow this Acceptable Use Agreement. If I break this agreement, the consequences could include suspension of computer privileges and/or disciplinary action.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____
(please print)

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Acceptable Use Signature

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Anna Yates Middle School Acceptable Use Agreement. I understand that technology is provided for educational purposes in keeping with the academic goals of Emery Unified, and that student use for any other purpose is inappropriate. I understand and will support my student in adhering to this Acceptable Use Agreement. I am aware that if my child breaks this agreement, the consequences could include suspension of technology privileges and/or disciplinary action.

Parent Name: _____
(please print)

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____