

Acceptable Use Policy_Students | Version 1.0

Policy and Procedures

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1.0 Introduction

Freedom of expression is an inalienable human right and the foundation for self-government. Freedom of expression encompasses the right to freedom of speech and the resulting right to receive information. Such rights extend to minors as well as adults.

Schools facilitate the exercise of these rights by providing access to information regardless of format or technology. In a free and democratic society, access to information is a fundamental right of citizenship.

1.1 Educational Technology

Mountain View–Los Altos (“**MVLA**”) is pleased to offer its students access to the Internet and related information services jointly referred to as “Educational Technology”.

- The Internet is an electronic highway connecting millions of computers and millions of individual users all over the world.
- Educational Technology is a tool for lifelong learning which will help propel our schools through the information age by allowing students and staff to access instructional resources on the World Wide Web, communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups within the district and around the world, and significantly expand their knowledge base. In making decisions regarding student access to Educational Technology, the school district considers its own stated educational mission, goals, and objectives.

Research skills in the information age are now fundamental to the preparation of citizens and the future workforce. Access to Educational Technology enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, publications, and other resources while exchanging ideas with people around the world.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of school-provided Educational Technology is to facilitate communications in support of research and education. To remain eligible as users of these tools, a student’s use must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives of the district. Access is a privilege, not a right and entails responsibility.

1.3 Expectations

The school district expects that faculty will blend thoughtful use of Educational Technology throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in its use. As much as possible, access from school to Educational Technology resources will be structured in ways which point students to resources, which have been evaluated by appropriate staff prior to use. While students will be able to move beyond these resources to others that have not been previewed by staff, they shall be provided with guidance to resources particularly suited to learning objectives.

Students utilizing school-provided Educational Technology are responsible for good behavior and proper communication when on-line just as they are in a classroom or other area of the school.

Each user account includes a home directory and access to various shared information. This limited storage space is provided for user information that is created and used in direct relation to academic pursuits. Images, music, games and other files that are not being used in class or for class related assignments are not allowed and may be deleted without notice.

The following uses of school-provided Educational Technology are not allowed:

1. access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material;
2. transmit obscene, abusive, or sexually explicit language;
3. violate any local, state or federal statute or regulation;
4. vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another individual or organization;
5. access another individual's materials, information, or files without permission;
6. violate copyright laws or otherwise use the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission.
7. access, upload, download, or distribute any non-educational materials.

1.4 Computer Trespassing

A person who knowingly or intentionally accesses:

1. a computer system;
2. a computer network;
3. any part of a computer system or computer network; without the consent of the owner of the computer system or computer network, or the consent of the owner's licensee, commits computer trespass, a Class A misdemeanor, under California penal code section 502.

See the Glossary at the end of this document for additional details.

1.5 Consequences

Any violation of the district's policy and rules may result in loss of access to some or all Education Technology. Additional disciplinary action may be determined in keeping with existing procedures and practices regarding inappropriate language or behavior.

When and where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

1.6 Personal Devices

Personal wireless devices, such as, smartphones, tablets and laptops may be connected to the District's wireless network. Details can be obtained from the school faculty or administration.

The wireless network is provided to allow personal devices limited access to educational content available on the Internet. All Internet access is filtered as it would be on any District owned computer. Access to the wireless network requires student to "logon" using their District User ID and Password..

1.7 Personal Device Liability

The school and MVLA District are not responsible for damage, theft, or loss of personal electronic communication equipment. Students will not leave personal laptops or other electronic devices unattended unless it is locked in a secure place. Students are fully responsible for the cost of replacement should their personal electronic device become

lost or stolen. The student's family is financially responsible for the full cost if damage occurs.

The district reserves the right to amend this policy at any time without prior notice and to take actions not expressly addressed in this policy as the district, in its discretion, may deem appropriate.

2.0 Glossary

Access: Interaction with a computer system or computer network

1. approach;
2. instruct;
3. communicate with;
4. store data in;
5. retrieve data from; or
6. make use of resources of; a computer, computer system, or computer network.

Computer Network: The interconnection of communication lines or wireless telecommunications with a computer or wireless telecommunication device through:

1. remote terminals;
2. a complex consisting of two (2) or more interconnected computers; or
3. a worldwide collection of interconnected networks operating as the Internet.

Computer System: A set of related computer equipment, software, or hardware.