

WEST HARDIN CCISD

Student Acceptable Use Policy

Electronic Communications System, 2011-2012

Please read this agreement and return page 3, signed by student and parent, to your teacher or campus office within the first 10 days of instruction. Failure to return this form will result in a loss of computer privileges.

We live in a changing world, where we have more and faster access to information than ever before. Students now can be both consumers and producers of information, and the District strives to be a 21st Century district taking advantage of the many new technologies and new methods of communication now available to our students. With access to these new technologies, students will have opportunities to learn and create like never before, but with those opportunities do come new responsibilities.

The District provides an array of technology resources for student use. This agreement outlines appropriate use and prohibited activities when using technology resources. Every student is expected to follow all guidelines stated below, as well as those given orally by the staff, and to demonstrate good citizenship and ethical behavior at all times.

In accepting this agreement, students acknowledge the following rules and conditions:

As a District student, I understand that my school network and email accounts are owned by the District and are not private. West Hardin CCISD has the right to access my information at any time.

GOVERNMENT LAWS:

I will use computers in conformity with laws of the United States and the State of Texas. Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Criminal Acts – These include, but are not limited to, “hacking” or attempting to access computer systems without authorization, harassing email, cyberbullying, cyberstalking, child pornography, vandalism, and/or unauthorized tampering with computer systems.
2. Libel Laws - Publicly defaming people through the published material on the internet, email, etc...
3. Copyright Violations - Copying, selling or distributing copyrighted material without the express written permission of the author or publisher (users should assume that all materials available on the Internet are protected by copyright), engaging in plagiarism (using other's words or ideas as your own).

RULES FOR APPROPRIATE AND RESPONSIBLE USE:

1. I understand that passwords are private. I will not allow others to use my account name and password, or try to use that of others.
2. I will be polite and use appropriate language in my email messages, multi-user role-playing and/or virtual learning environments, online postings, and other digital communications with others. I will refrain from using profanity, vulgarities or any other inappropriate language as determined by school administrators.
3. I will use email and other means of communications (e.g. blogs, wikis, podcasting, chat, instant-messaging, discussion boards, virtual learning environments, etc.) responsibly. I will not use computers, handheld computers, digital audio players, cell phones, personal digital devices or the Internet to send or post hate or harassing mail, pornography, make discriminatory or derogatory remarks about others, or engage in bullying, harassment, or other antisocial behaviors either at school or at home.
4. I understand that I represent the school district in all my online activities. I understand that what I do on social networking websites such as Facebook should not reflect negatively on my fellow students, teachers, or on the District. I understand that I will be held responsible for how I represent myself and my school, organization or District on the Internet.
5. I understand that masquerading, spoofing, or pretending to be someone else is forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, sending out e-mail, creating accounts, or posting messages or other online content (e.g. text, images, audio or video) in someone else's name as a joke.
6. I will use technology resources responsibly. I will not retrieve, save, or display hate-based, offensive or sexually explicit material using any of WHCCISD's computer resources. I am responsible for not pursuing material that could be considered offensive. I understand that I am to notify an adult immediately if by accident I encounter materials which violate appropriate use.
7. I will use technology resources productively and responsibly for school-related purposes. I will avoid using any technology resource in such a way that would disrupt the activities of other users.
8. I will refrain from attempting to bypass, or circumventing, security settings or Internet filters, or interfere with the operation of the network by installing illegal software, or web-based services and software.
9. I understand that vandalism is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to modifying or destroying equipment, programs, files, or settings on any computer or other technology resource.
10. I will respect the intellectual property of other users and information providers. I will obey copyright guidelines. I will not plagiarize or use other's work without proper citation and permission.
11. I will refrain from the use of or access of files, software, or other resources owned by others without the owner's permission. I will use only those school network directories that are designated for my use or for the purpose designated by my teacher.
12. I will follow all guidelines set forth by the District and/or my teachers when publishing schoolwork online (e.g. to a website, blog, wiki, discussion board, podcasting or video).
13. I understand the Internet is a source for information that is both true and false; and that the school is not responsible for inaccurate information obtained from the Internet.
14. I understand that District administrators will deem what conduct is inappropriate use if such conduct is not specified in this agreement.
15. I agree to abide by all Internet safety guidelines that are provided by the school and to complete all assignments related to Internet safety.

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS AGREEMENT:

I understand and will abide by the above Acceptable Use Agreement. Should I commit a violation, I understand that consequences of my actions could include suspension of computer privileges, disciplinary action, and/or referral to law enforcement.

➡ Student Name (please print) _____ Grade: _____

➡ Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or Guardian:

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Agreement. I understand that computer access is provided for educational purposes in keeping with the academic goals of the District, and that student use for any other purpose is inappropriate. I recognize it is impossible for the District to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired on the school network.

➡ Parent or Guardian's Name (please print) _____

➡ Parent or Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Web Publishing

The spirit of technology education is one of sharing. We create blogs, podcasts, videos, wikis, and other social media, but we don't create them for one person. We create them to share with the class, the school, and the district community and, perhaps, the world, because we understand that a global audience drives achievement. **Most of our sharing will be done on the school web page, www.westhardin.org where we can place student writings, art work, group pictures of events, awards, etc. Student full names and personal information are always kept confidential and are not shared online, adhering to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). Will you allow your students' created content like videos, writing blogs, audio and video podcasts, which may include their images, to be shared on our school web page? Your permission is needed for any of the following to be published:**

- 1) Child's work 2) Child's first name 3) Inclusion of your child in a digital image or video clip (group setting only)

Parent or Guardian, please sign next to **ONLY ONE** of the appropriate boxes: My child's work, first name, and/or my child's inclusion in a group digital image or video clip **may** be electronically displayed and published by the West Hardin CCISD on District managed servers.

➡ YES NO

➡ _____
Student's Name (Please Print) GRADE LEVEL

➡ _____
Student's Signature Date Parent/Guardian Signature Date

➡ _____
Parent's Name (Please Print)

Parent: My signature above certifies that I have read the above forms and agree to allow West Hardin CCISD to proceed with the marked authorizations above as it affects my child's information, access, and publishing.