



# Santa Barbara Unified School District

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www.sbsd.k12.org

## ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTER/INTERNET, E-MAIL, AND CELL PHONE TECHNOLOGY

The Santa Barbara Unified School District intends that technological resources provided by the district or used on district property be used in a responsible and proper manner and used to support the instructional program for the advancement of student learning. Because access to the internet provides connections to computer and electronic systems (including e-mail, chat rooms, and social networking sites) located anywhere in the world, users (and parents of users who are students) must understand that neither the Santa Barbara Unified School District nor district staff members control the content of the information available over these systems. Some of the information is controversial and some may be offensive. The Santa Barbara Unified School District does not condone the use of the internet or of cell phones to access or send such materials. In an attempt to be proactive, the Santa Barbara Unified School District has taken steps to filter all computers with District internet access in a concerted effort to block offensive material. It is a general policy that all computers and cell phones throughout the district are to be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner.

The student to whom any form of an internet account is issued is responsible at all times for its proper use. Users should change their password frequently and should not give a password to another user. Unless otherwise instructed by school personnel, students shall keep personal account numbers, home addresses, Social Security numbers, telephone numbers, and other identifiable information private and use the system only under their own account number. The district gives a student a free internet account. A responsible user of the internet may keep the account as long as the user is a student in the Santa Barbara Unified School District.

Unacceptable uses of the system (internet, intranet, e-mail, cell phones, or other electronic devices) include:

- Accessing, posting, forwarding, texting, submitting, publishing, or displaying inappropriate matter that is threatening, obscene, libelous, slanderous, disruptive, unlawful, or sexually explicit; incites students to commit unlawful acts on school premises; or that could be construed as harassment, discrimination, or disparagement of others based on their actual or perceived sex, gender, ethnic group identification, race, national origin, religion, physical or mental disability, age, sexual orientation, or political beliefs.
- Using the system to encourage the use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, or promoting unethical practices or any activity prohibited by law, Board policy, or administrative regulations.
- Using the system for financial gain, for commercial activity, or for any illegal activity.
- Using the system to threaten, intimidate, harass, or ridicule other students or staff.
- Copying copyrighted material, commercial software, or files in violation of copyright laws.
- Intentionally uploading, downloading, or creating computer viruses and/or maliciously attempting to harm or destroy district equipment or materials, or manipulating the data of any other user, including so-called "hacking."
- Using the system to interfere with other users' ability to send or receive email, text messages, or other forms of communication, or attempting to read, delete, copy, modify, or use another's individual's identity.
- Violating the conditions of the California Education Code dealing with students' rights to privacy.
- Using cell phones on campus for any illegal activity.

- Accessing social networking sites over district computers or the district's internet connections unless specifically approved in advance by the district.

The district reserves the right to monitor the system for improper use. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account, may be reviewed by district officials to ensure proper use of the system. Note that system operators will have access to all user accounts, including e-mail sent while using the district's internet connections.

The principal or designee shall make all decisions regarding whether or not a student has violated the above policies. The decision of the principal shall be final. Inappropriate use may result in cancellation of the student's user privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action in accordance with law and Board policy.

*NOTE: These actions are specific to the current school year and start over with the next school year.*

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Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of student user

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

By signing, you acknowledge that you:

- understand the rules and regulations of the Acceptable Use of Computer/Internet, E-mail and Cell Phone Technology Policy;
- realize that, if the rules are violated, your account will be canceled;
- understand there might be no second chances.

**PARENT CONSENT**

I have read this Acceptable Use of Computer/Internet, E-mail, and Cell Phone Technology form and agree to its provisions. I understand that the internet can link a computer to computers throughout the world. I know that the Santa Barbara Unified School District does not control the content of these internet sites or of cell phone communications. When using the internet or a cell phone, I realize that students may read material that I might consider controversial or offensive. The Santa Barbara Unified School District has my permission to give an internet account to my child. I understand that my child may keep this account as long as the procedures described in the Acceptable Use of Computer/Internet, E-mail, and Cell Phone Technology form are followed. In consideration of the above, I agree to not hold the district or any district staff responsible for the failure of any technology protection measures, violations of copyright restrictions, or users' mistakes or negligence. I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless the district and district personnel for any damages or cost incurred.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of student