

# Brazosport Independent School District

## Student Acceptable Use Agreement (Student AUA)

### For Internet/Network Access

Our staff and students use technology to learn. Technology is essential to facilitate the creative problem solving, information fluency, and collaboration that we see in today's global economy. While we want our students to be active contributors in our connected world, we also want them to be safe, legal, and responsible. This Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) supports our vision of technology use and upholds in our users a strong sense of digital citizenship. This policy applies to all Brazosport Independent School District (BISD) computer networks (including the resources made available by them), and all devices connected to those networks.

#### Responsible Use and Digital Citizenship

- **Respect Yourself:** I will select online names that are appropriate, and I will be polite and use appropriate language/content in all online posts.
- **Protect Yourself:** I will not publish personal details, contact details or a schedule of activities for myself or anyone else. I understand that unless otherwise authorized, I am responsible for all activity initiated by and/or performed under these accounts. I understand that it is my responsibility to appropriately secure my account credentials. I understand that I am responsible for maintaining and backing up all of my own data. If I am uncertain whether a specific computer activity is permitted or appropriate, I will ask a teacher/administrator before engaging in that activity.
- **Respect Others:** I will not use technologies to bully, threaten, or harass other people. I will not make audio or video recordings of students/employees without their prior permission. I understand that posing as someone else is forbidden and I will not pose as a user other than myself when online. I will not access, download, or modify accounts, files, or data belonging to others. I will be careful and aware when printing to avoid wasting resources and printing unnecessary items.
- **Protect Others:** I will help maintain a safe computing environment by notifying appropriate campus officials of inappropriate behavior, vulnerabilities, risks, and breaches involving campus / district technology.
- **Respect Intellectual Property:** I will suitably cite any and all use of websites, books, media, etc. I will respect all copyrights.
- **Protect Intellectual Property:** I will request to use the software and media that others produce.

The BISD Digital Citizenship and CyberSafety curriculum resources are located at [www.brazosportisd.net](http://www.brazosportisd.net) under Parent & Student Information.

## **Guidelines for Appropriate Use**

### **1. Acceptable Use**

- The purpose of a BISD user account is to access the BISD network and facilitate creativity and innovation. We use this network to support communication and collaboration. We use technology to extend research and information fluency, to collect and analyze data and to solve problems. The use of the network (including Internet) must be in support of education and research consistent with the educational goals of the BISD.
- The following practices using District wide-area networks shall be prohibited:
  - any use of computing resources for commercial purposes, product advertising, political lobbying, or political campaigning
  - any use that disrupts the educational and administrative goals of the District
  - any use of a network account by anyone but the authorized owner of the account
  - access of materials that has been deemed inappropriate for school use
- Users may not send, save, view, forward, or create harassing or offensive content/messages. Offensive material includes, but is not limited to, pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material, sexual comments, jokes or images that would violate school policies. The school policies against harassment and discrimination apply to the use of technology.

### **2. Privileges**

- The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in cancellation of those privileges.
- The Chief Operations and Technology Officer, in accordance with the Superintendent and Board, will deem what constitutes inappropriate use and this decision is final. This document and any other applicable district policy, or law governs any further consequence related to inappropriate use.
- The administration, faculty, and staff of BISD may request the Chief Operations and Technology Officer to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user access. The Chief Operations and Technology Officer may suspend or revoke access at any time for inappropriate use.

### **3. Filtering**

- No internet filtering device is 100% accurate and BISD's filter is not an exception. The District can make no guarantee that all inappropriate content will be filtered, as new internet sites and proxy servers are created every day. BISD follows all requirements of CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act) compliance, and makes every effort to protect students from harmful content.
- The Chief Operations and Technology Officer will select, implement, and maintain appropriate technology for filtering Internet sites containing material considered inappropriate or harmful to minors. All Internet access within a district site will be filtered for minors on devices with Internet access.
- The categories of material considered inappropriate and to which access will be blocked include, but are not limited to: nudity/pornography; images or descriptions of sexual acts; promotion of violence, illegal use of weapons, drug use, discrimination, or participation in hate groups; instructions for performing criminal acts (e.g., bomb making); online gambling; bullying, and social networking.
- All Google searches and YouTube videos are recorded and monitored.

- Immediately notify your teacher or a staff member if inappropriate material is accessed unintentionally.
- If you need access to a blocked appropriate site ask your teacher to use the proper procedure to request that the site be reviewed. Only requests submitted by BISD employees will be considered for review.
- Only sites used for instructional or school business purposes will be considered for unblocking.
- BISD is not responsible for the content accessed by users who connect via their own wireless device (cell phones, air-cards, etc.).

### **Downloading/Streaming**

- Downloading from Internet: Students shall not download or install any unapproved software on district technology devices.
- Downloading of content or music clips by students shall be monitored at all times and must be only for direct instructional purposes, and must be legal.
- Audio or Video Streaming from Internet: Students shall not access the internet for streaming (live) audio (music, etc.) or video (clips, movies, etc.) at any time, unless approved by their immediate teacher for educational purposes.

## **4. Security**

- If you feel you can identify a security problem on the Internet, you must notify the classroom teacher immediately.
- For the security of data that may be accessible from your networked computer, you must always lock or log out of your computer when you are not sitting in front of it.
- Your password must be kept secure at all times. Do not share it with other students/people or post it in an accessible location.
- Posting of personal addresses or phone numbers of students or colleagues is prohibited.
- Posting of student pictures with full names is prohibited.
- Physical or electronic tampering with computer resources will result in cancellation of privileges and possible disciplinary action.
- Internet file sharing services, also called Peer-to-Peer Networks are strictly prohibited and violations may result in disciplinary action.
- Personal portable storage devices (jump drives, flash drives, etc.) may be attached to a district computer. Data on the personal portable storage device is subject to review, inspection and confiscation by the Chief Operations and Technology Officer or other district personnel.
- Any and all hacking on BISD equipment and applications is strictly prohibited. For the purposes of this document, hacking is defined as any attempt (whether successful or not) to access, override, and/or manipulate any and all BISD data, applications, servers, routers, switches, access points, and any other devices connected to the BISD network. An example of hacking would be the creation and / or distribution of a computer virus / spyware on the BISD network. Hacking will result in disciplinary action (which may include cancellation of privileges) and prosecution to the fullest extent of the law.

### **Government Laws**

Technology is to be utilized in conformity with laws of the United States and State of Texas. Violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Criminal Acts – These include, but are not limited to:
  - Unauthorized tampering
  - Harassing email
  - Cyberstalking
  - Child pornography
  - Vandalism
  - Cyberbullying
2. Libel Laws – You may not publicly defame people through published material.
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), and/or engaging in plagiarism.

### **Google Apps and Other Third Party Accounts**

In accordance with our district mission, goals and vision for technology, our students may require accounts in third party systems. Many of these accounts will be used at school for school related projects but may also be accessed outside of school with their parents' permission. The use of these accounts will help our students to master effective and proper online communications as required in the PreK-12 Technology Applications Standards.

### **COPPA Consent**

In order for BISD to continue to be able to provide your student with the most effective web-based tools and applications for learning, we need to abide by federal regulations that require a parental signature as outlined below.

BISD utilizes several computer software applications and web-based services, operated not by BISD, but by third parties. These include Google Apps for Education, and similar educational programs.

In order for our students to use these programs and services, certain personal identifying information, generally the student's name and email address must be provided to the web site operator. Under federal law, these websites must provide parental notification and obtain parental consent before collecting personal information from children under the age of 13.

The law permits schools such as BISD to consent to the collection of personal information on behalf of all of its students, thereby eliminating the need for individual parental consent given directly to the web site operator.

Your approval of the Acceptable Use Agreement will constitute consent for BISD to provide personal identifying information for your child consisting of first name, last name, email address and username to Google Apps for Education and to the operators of any additional web-based educational programs and services which BISD may add during the upcoming academic year.

Please be advised that without approval of the Acceptable Use Agreement, your enrollment package will not be considered complete as BISD will be unable to provide your student (s) with the resources, teaching and curriculum offered by our EmpowerEd (1:1) Program.

### **Limitation of Liability**

The District makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the District system will be error-free or without defect. The District will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer, including but not limited to, data loss or interruptions of service. The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. The District shall not be liable for the user's inappropriate use of the District's technology resources or violations of copyright restrictions, users' mistakes or negligence, or cost incurred by users. Users will indemnify and hold the department and its respective districts harmless from any losses sustained by the department as a result of intentional misuse of the system by a user. Data contained in the District technology resource systems remain the property of BISD. Electronic mail transmissions and other use of BISD technology resource systems including Internet access and data storage shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored by authorized individuals at any time to ensure appropriate use for educational purposes.

### **Consequences for Inappropriate Internet/Network Use**

By signing the Acknowledgement of Electronic Distribution of Student Handbook & *Student Code of Conduct* signature page the user certifies that they understand and will abide by this Acceptable Use Agreement. If the user breaks the agreement, the consequences could include:

- Suspension of access to Internet and/or Network account;
- Disciplinary and/or legal action, in accordance with District policies and applicable laws.

**The required signatures on the Internet/Network Acceptable Use Agreement signature page are legally binding and indicate the parties who signed have read the terms and conditions carefully and understand their significance.**

**The signature page titled 2020-2021 Acknowledgement of Electronic Distribution of Student Handbook & *Student Code of Conduct* can be found at the back of the *Student Code of Conduct* under Section VI Miscellaneous.**

# Brazosport Independent School District

## 2021 – 2022

### ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

#### **USER/STUDENT**

I have read and will abide by the BISD Acceptable Use Agreement. I understand that the use of the District's electronic communication system is a privilege and violation of these provisions is unethical and may result in access to the system being revoked and/or disciplinary/legal action being taken.

User's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

User Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **PARENT OR GUARDIAN (Must be signed if the user is a minor)**

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the BISD Acceptable Use Agreement and agree to promote its provisions with my child. I recognize it is impossible for the school district to restrict access to all controversial materials. I further understand that the use of the District's electronic communication system is a privilege and violation of these provisions is unethical and may result in access to the system being revoked and / or disciplinary/legal action being taken.

Signature of parent or guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION OF STUDENT HANDBOOK & STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

We accept responsibility for accessing the Student Handbook and the **Student Code of Conduct** by visiting the Web address at [www.brazosportisd.net](http://www.brazosportisd.net). We understand that hard copies of the Student Handbook and the **Student Code of Conduct** are available at all Principal offices on each BISD campus if access to the web is not an option.

I understand that the handbook contains information that my child and I may need during the school year and that all students will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to the disciplinary consequences outlined in the **Student Code of Conduct**. If I have any questions regarding this handbook or the Code of Conduct, I should direct those questions to the principal at my home campus.

Failure to sign and return this form does not exempt me/us from compliance with laws, policies, rules and regulations of the State of Texas and of Brazosport Independent School District.

Student Name (Please Print)	Grade	Campus
Parent/Guardian Signature		Date
Student Signature		Date

Please sign and return this form to your student's school. Thank you.