

**School District of Cameron  
Cameron High School  
Grades 9-12**

**Internet/Computer & Technology Acceptable Use Policy**

**For the complete School District of Cameron Acceptable Use Policy, refer to *Board Policy IIBGA*.**

***A. Mission Statement:***

The Cameron School District provides staff members and students access to the Internet and other technologies as a means to further the educational goals and objectives of the district. It also has made a commitment to make technology resources available to enhance the educational process, and provide both students and staff with life-long computer, research, and technology skills.

***B. Benefits and Responsibilities:***

The Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, research facilities, and bulletin boards. We believe that benefits to students from access to the Internet and various technologies, in the form of educational resources and opportunities for collaboration, far exceed any disadvantages.

Computer facilities and other technologies (which include but are not limited to the all hardware and software, the Internet, e-mail, phone and voicemail systems, audio/video equipment, peripherals, networks, servers, telecommunications, virtual tools, plus related services) are provided as valuable resources for students to use throughout the day. Many classes require computer access or require students to be familiar with certain software or equipment.

The District establishes that access is a ***privilege, not a right***. All individuals using the District's technology and network (including the Internet) must submit written consent that they have read and agree to appropriate school use of the technology resources available prior to actively utilizing District technology and networks.

Students are responsible for ethical and professional behavior on the network just as they are in the classroom, school hallways, and school-sponsored events. District staff will educate and guide students with acceptable and appropriate use of technology and online communications. However, parents and guardians of minors are ultimately responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using electronic resources.

***C. District Internet and Online Communication Rules:***

The network is provided for students to conduct research, communicate with others, and construct educational assignments/products. Access to Internet services and online communication are given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parental permission is required for independent access (see Consent Form). Technology and Internet use is a privilege, not a right. **It is presumed that users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreements they have signed.**

Freedom of speech and access to information are rights to be exercised within the bounds of acceptable standards of the Cameron School District policies. Teachers and administrators have the right to review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that students are using the system responsibly. *Students should not expect that files stored on district computers will be private.* The electronic information available to students and staff does not imply endorsement of the content by the school district, nor does the District guarantee the accuracy of information received on the Internet. The District shall not be responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network.

***D. CIPA and NCIPA Compliance***

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act (NCIPA), all equipment connecting to the Internet from any connection located within the District's buildings will be blocked or filtered. The District will make best efforts to prevent users from accessing or transmitting any "inappropriate matter" as that term is used in the NCIPA. However, the District acknowledges that the potential exposure to inappropriate information is not and cannot be entirely avoided. *It is impossible to guarantee* students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their parents/guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable, or controversial.

## ***E. Cyberbullying***

The District's computer network and the Internet, whether accessed on campus or off campus, during or after school hours, may not be used for the purpose of harassment. All forms of harassment over the Internet, commonly referred to as cyber bullying, are unacceptable and viewed as a violation of this policy and the District's acceptable use policy and procedures. Users are responsible for the appropriateness of the material they transmit over the system. Hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, or other antisocial behaviors are expressly prohibited.

Students and community members who believe they have been the victims of such misuses of technology, as described in this policy, should not erase the offending material from the system. A copy of the material should be printed and brought to the attention of the building principal or the Technology Services Coordinator. The administration shall fully investigate all reports of cyber bullying. In situations in which the cyber bullying originated from a non-school computer but brought to the attention of school officials, any disciplinary action shall be based upon whether the conduct is determined to be severely disruptive of the educational process so that it markedly interrupts or severely impedes the day-to-day operations of a school. In addition, such conduct must also be in violation of a publicized school policy.

## ***F. Unacceptable/Inappropriate Use***

The following behaviors are examples of inappropriate usage. Keep in mind that it is neither possible nor necessary to specify every type of inappropriate behavior, or every inappropriate circumstance, that would justify action under this Policy.

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures;
- Using obscene language;
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others;
- Vandalizing or stealing any computer hardware;
- Downloading unauthorized files from the internet;
- Playing games of any type;
- Violating copyright laws;
- Using other student's or faculty passwords;
- Trespassing in other student's or faculty files;
- Using the Internet for commercial purposes;
- Excessive use of the internet, e-mail, etc. that interferes with academic achievement

Our computer network and available technologies are provided to enhance the educational process. Using this network for anything other than proper communication and research should be considered a violation. If the user is ever in doubt whether something is appropriate or not, it probably is not. The user should practice ethical and sound decision-making skills. Violations may result in a temporary or permanent loss of computer access as well as other disciplinary or legal action. As a District, we encourage students to get the most out of the technology available to further their education!

## ***G. Possible Consequences:***

The user shall be responsible for damages to the equipment, systems, and software resulting from deliberate or willful acts. Illegal use of the network, intentional deletion or damage to files or data belonging to others, copyright violations or theft of services will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities for possible prosecution.

To help ensure consistency when dealing with computer or internet violations, the following suspensions have been determined for computer and Internet offenses.

First Offense:	2 week suspension from computer use
Second Offense:	4 week suspension from computer use
Third Offense:	Suspended from computer use for remainder of the year

Students that receive suspensions will only be allowed to use computers when under direct supervision from a classroom teacher for specific courses set by the building principal. Any other uses will not be allowed. It will be up to the student to arrange how he/she will meet class requirements under these suspensions. Additional disciplinary action (i.e. suspension) may be determined at the building and/or district level in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate behavior. More serious offenses, such as theft or vandalism, will warrant more severe penalties. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data, programs, or equipment located on District premises, on the Internet, or on the District's or other networks.

*Ref: E-Mail Harassment Policy*

*Ref: Internet/Computer and Technology Acceptable Use Policy*

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For Office use only.  Graduation Year: _____  Student ID: _____
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## Internet/Computer & Technology Independent Access and Consent Form

*This section to be filled out by students:*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduating Class: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Last    \_\_\_\_\_ First    \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial

I have read the Cameron School District Internet/Computer and Technology Acceptable Use Policy and agree to abide by the provisions. I understand that violations of the use provisions stated in the policy may constitute suspension or revocation of Internet privileges and use of school computers.

\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature    \_\_\_\_\_ Date

*This section to be filled out by parent/legal guardian:*

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Last    \_\_\_\_\_ First    \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_ Street

\_\_\_\_\_ City    \_\_\_\_\_ State    \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code

Telephone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_ Home    \_\_\_\_\_ Work

I have read and reviewed with my child the Cameron School District Internet/Computer and Technology Acceptable Use Policy. As the parent or legal guardian of the minor student signing above, I grant permission for my son or daughter to independently access Internet services and use computers/technology for educational purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature    \_\_\_\_\_ Date