



## **Hall County Schools Acceptable Use Agreement of Electronic Media for Students**

The Hall County Board of Education recognizes that electronic media, including the Internet, instructional software, and all cloud based applications and resources, provides access to a wide variety of instructional resources. All Hall County Schools are Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) environments. Students are encouraged to bring personal devices to use for instructional purposes. Use of electronic resources must be in support of, and consistent with, the vision, mission and goals established by the HCBOE and for instructional purposes. All users of HCSD networks, services, and applications must maintain strict compliance with all applicable ethical and legal rules and regulations regarding access. The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that all HCSD technology resources are utilized in an appropriate, ethical and lawful manner. HCSD technology should be used for legitimate educational reasons only, and not for personal use. All users of HCSD technology resources and facilities must agree to and sign the terms of this acceptable use agreement.

Strict compliance with all applicable ethical and legal rules and regulations must be maintained by all users of HCSD networks, services, and applications. Users must respect intellectual property rights and understand that school system data accessible over the network, regardless of the computer or device being used, constitutes property. All electronic, telephonic, and communications transmitted by, received from or stored in these systems are property of the Hall County School District. Users of such systems should have no expectation of privacy when using HCSD computers, network, equipment, or privately owned equipment connected to a HCSD network.

It is important to note that with a global network, it is impossible to control or predict all materials a user may accidentally or purposefully discover. Access to the Internet provides connections to other computer systems located all over the world. Students and his/her parents must understand that neither the HCSD nor any district staff member controls the content of the information available on these other systems. Some of the information available is controversial and sometimes may be offensive. HCSD does not condone the use of such materials. Therefore, it is imperative that the user be held accountable for the appropriate utilization of this technology. All HCSD computers and networks are filtered in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act.

The definition of HCSD information and data resources includes, but is not limited to, any computer, tablet, phone, server or network, or access provided or supported by HCSD, including the Internet.

Login information, usernames and passwords are confidential. The student is responsible for keeping login information secure. At no time should anyone log in with another individual's user name or password.

The user of the system is the student using HCSD technology. HCSD, and privately owned, technology and electronic resources must not be used to:

- Harm other people (including cyber bullying and harassment).
- Interfere with other people's work.
- Steal property.
- Gain unauthorized access to other people's files or programs.
- Gain unauthorized access to online resources by using another individual's password.
- Make changes to the hardware or software configuration of any machine, including installing or deleting any software.
- Improperly use the network, including introducing software viruses and/or bypassing local school or office security policies.
- Steal or damage data and/or computers and network equipment.
- Download copyrighted software, music, or images, or violate any copyright laws.
- Video record instruction or instructional activities without explicit permission of the teacher or the principal
- Access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, hate-oriented, profane, obscene, sexually explicit material

All HCSD facilities are Wi-Fi enabled. Students may access district and internet resources via the Hallco-WiFi network.

Under no circumstances are students to upload/install any materials, program, files, or applications onto HCSD computers, network equipment, or any computer systems without obtaining prior written consent. Students are responsible for ensuring that any machine that connects to the HCSD networks, or media introduced to any HCSD machine are virus free and do not contain any unauthorized or inappropriate files.

Parents that allow their child to bring privately owned computers/other technology devices to school are personally responsible for the equipment. Responsibility for the maintenance and repair of the equipment rests solely with the student/parent. Any damage or theft to the equipment is the responsibility of the student/parent. District technicians and/or school-based personnel will not service or repair hardware or software owned by the student/ staff member. No internal components belonging to the district shall be placed in any personal equipment, whether as enhancements, upgrades or replacement.

Access to technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use is subject to local school disciplinary action, up to and including a disciplinary tribunal hearing, or district level disciplinary action in accordance with the HCSD student code of conduct. Individual schools may establish additional guidelines for use of electronic resources.

Failure to follow these guidelines may violate Georgia Laws related to computer crimes as set forth in the Official Code of Georgia, O.C.G.A. 16-9-90, 16-9-91, 16-9-93, and 16-9-93.1, as well as Title XVII of United States Public Law 106-554, known as the Children's Internet Protection Act and 20 USC 1232g, known as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Such actions can also lead to disciplinary actions, up to and including loss of access to HCSD technology resources and further disciplinary actions as defined by existing HCSD policies or student code of conduct.

HCSD does not guarantee the privacy or security of any item stored on or transmitted by any privately owned computers. All technology use, whether HCSD owned or privately owned, is subject to auditing, as well as live and archived monitoring where appropriate. School Administrators may revoke the user's access and suspend the right to use the privately owned computer at district facilities if at any time it is determined that the user is engaged in unauthorized activity or is violating the Acceptable Use Agreement.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date