

## **INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth policies and guidelines for acceptable use of the Internet. Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees. Access to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards and other resources while exchanging messages with people around the world. The school district will provide guidance and instruction to students in its use; but is not responsible for the accuracy of information or its inappropriate use.

### **INTERNET USE AGREEMENT**

- The proper use of the Internet, and the educational value to be gained from proper Internet use, is the joint responsibility of students, parents and employees of the school district.
- This policy requires the permission of a designated school official before a student may use a school account or resource to access the Internet.
- All students must have on file the School Board approved Internet Use Agreement before they are allowed to use WEM school computers.
- The Internet Use Agreement form must be read and signed by the user, parent or guardian. The form must be filed in the student cumulative folder.

### **SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES**

As a student at WEM High School, you are expected to follow student handbook guidelines, even though an event may happen off school property or after school hours.

Social network sites, other digital platforms (including cell phones) and distribution mechanisms that facilitate students communicating with other students are considered "Social Networking" platforms. Participation in such networks has both positive appeal and potentially negative consequences. It is important the WEM students be aware of these consequences and exercise appropriate caution if they choose to participate.

Students are not restricted from using on-line social network sites and/or digital platforms. However, users must understand that any content they make public via on-line social networks or digital platforms is expected to follow acceptable social behaviors and also to comply with federal, state and local laws, as well as your Student Handbook, School Board Policy #524, and Internet Acceptable Usage Agreement. As a WEM student, you must be aware of your Student Handbook regulations and expectations of our said extra-curricular programs. Ignorance of these regulations does not excuse students from adhering to them.

### **GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS:**

These guidelines are intended to provide a framework for students to conduct themselves safely and responsibly in an on-line environment. As a student at WEM you should:

- Be careful with how much and what kind of identifying information you post on social networking sites. Virtually anyone with an email address can access your personal page. It is unwise to make available information such a full date of birth, social security number, address, phone number, cell phone numbers, class schedules, bank account information, or details about your daily routine. All of these can facilitate identity theft or stalking. Social Media sites provide numerous privacy settings for information contained in its pages. Use these settings to protect private information. However, once posted, remember the information becomes property of the website and public record.
- Be aware that community members, family, and potential, current and future employers and college admissions offices often access information you place on on-line social networking sites. You should

think about any information you post on sites or similar directories that potentially portrays an image of you to a prospective employer or school. The information is considered public information. Protect yourself by maintaining a self-image that you can be proud of years from now.

- Be careful in responding to unsolicited e-mails asking for passwords or PIN numbers. Reputable businesses do not ask for this information in e-mails.
- Don't have a false sense of security about your rights to freedom of speech when using Social Media. Understand that freedom of speech is not unlimited. The on-line social network sites are NOT a place where you can say and do whatever you want without repercussions or personal accountability.
- Remember photos once put on the social network site's server become their property and public record. You may delete the photo from your profile but it still stays on their server. Internet search engines like "Google" or "Yahoo" may still find that image long after you have deleted it from your profile. Think long and hard about what type of photo you want to represent you.
- Whoever is the "adult" (over 18) responsible for the contracts, computers, phone lines, etc...is liable (civil and criminal) for your actions as a minor as well.

#### **THINGS STUDENTS SHOULD AVOID:**

- Derogatory language or remarks about our students, teammates, school personnel and our community at-large; as well as, teachers, or coaches; student-athletes, administrators or representatives of other schools.
- Demeaning statements about or threats to any third party- (Including support of demeaning statements and threats.) Don't respond to these.
- Distribution and possession of unauthorized videos and photos or statements depicting violence; hazing; sexual harassment and content; vandalism, stalking; underage drinking, selling, possessing, or using controlled substances; or any other inappropriate behaviors.
- Creating a serious danger to the safety of another person or making a credible threat of serious physical or emotional injury to another person.
- Indicating knowledge of unreported felonies, crimes, thefts or damage to property or unethical behavior.
- Indicating knowledge of an unreported school or team violation—regardless if the violation was unintentional or intentional.

One of the biggest lessons social network users can learn is that anything you post online enters the public record. You never know who may be looking and when.

Students, Parents and Guardians, let it be known that any students in violation of said conduct is subject to consequences to be determined by the Administration, Principal and/or Activities Director. The Minnesota State High School League Student Code of Responsibilities, Bylaw 206.00, is applicable and relevant in all student related issues and concerns in such matters.

#### **VIOLATION OF INTERNET USAGE/SOCIAL MEDIA**

- Privileges will be revoked up to one calendar year from the date of the violation.
- School disciplinary action may be taken and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

## INTERNET USE AGREEMENT-STUDENT

### STUDENT

I have read and do understand the school district policies relating to safety and acceptable use of the school district computer systems and the Internet and agree to abide by them. I further understand that should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

User's Full Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

User Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

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

### PARENT OR GUARDIAN

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the school district policies relating to safety and acceptable use of the school district computer system and the Internet. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes, The School district has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for the school district to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold the school district or its employees or agents responsible for materials acquired on the Internet. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Parent/ Guardian's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian's Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

### SUPERVISING TEACHER

(Must be signed if applicant is a student)

I have read the school district policies relating to safety and acceptable use of the school district computer system and the Internet and agree to promote these policies with the student. Because the student may use the Internet on the school district computer system for individual work or in the context of another class, I cannot be held responsible for the student's use of the Internet on network. As the supervising teacher I do agree to instruct the student on acceptable use of the Internet and network and proper network etiquette.

Teacher's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_