

**LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Digital Technology/Electronic Media Acceptable Use Policy: (DT/EM-AUP)**

For purposes of this policy, “users and groups” refers to Londonderry School District employees, students, contracted service personnel, community members, guests, organizations and any volunteers working within the District or schools.

For purposes of this policy, “DT/EM-AUP” refers to the Londonderry School District **Digital Technology/Electronic Media Acceptable Use Policy** and “DT/EM” refers to **Digital Technology/Electronic Media**

The responsibility of all users and groups is to familiarize themselves with and abide by the rules of this DT/EM-AUP, the Student Handbook and all other applicable school policies. The Londonderry School District encourages the use of DT/EM for completing educational assignments and professional responsibilities. The primary purpose of providing access to DT/EM within the District is to support the educational goals and objectives outlined in the Londonderry School District Strategic Plan. The following DT/EM-AUP applies to **all users and groups**, who use the District’s DT/EM. Any violation of the terms spelled out below may result in loss of access to the District’s DT/EM and/or disciplinary/legal action.

I. Introduction

Pursuant to New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated 194:3-d, this DT/EM-AUP shall serve as a statement on the appropriate use of the various “DT/EM” available to all authorized **users and groups** of the Londonderry School District including, but not limited to, the Londonderry School District computers, network, tablets, phones, electronic mail system (e-mail), website (homepage) and Internet access. It is the Londonderry School District’s goal to enhance educational excellence with the assistance of these technology resources. It is expected that all digital technology users will respect the rights of others, and will act in a way that reflects proper ethical and legal standards at all times.

A. The Internet

The Internet, and the World Wide Web, is a vast information network that links individuals, computers, networks and databases throughout the world. The Internet has the potential to serve as an invaluable resource because it allows immediate access to and download of educational materials found at universities and colleges, government agencies and departments, non-profit organizations, private businesses and companies, and even private residences. **All users and groups** should be aware that the Internet’s power to access limitless resources also includes information or material that lacks educational value and can be inaccurate, controversial, objectionable, offensive, defamatory and even illegal. The Londonderry School District does not condone the use of such materials at any time and prohibits the use of the Londonderry School District technology resources for these purposes.

The Londonderry School District uses a technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access to some Internet sites that are not in accordance with District policy. The technology protection measure may be disabled by appropriate personnel upon request from staff for research purposes to access a site with legitimate educational value with that is wrongly blocked by the technology protection measure. Appropriate personnel will monitor use of the Internet to ensure

enforcement of the policy yet, it is technologically impossible for the Londonderry School District or any district staff member to adequately filter or control the quality or content of the information available on the Internet while still retaining a meaningful connection to it. Therefore, **all users and groups** will be held responsible for ensuring that their activities adhere to the District's DT/EM-AUP and to generally accept educational standards as outlined in other applicable district policies.

The Internet also provides interactive communication technologies, such as e-mail, news groups, list servers, instant chat rooms, podcasts, wikis, blogs and discussion groups. While these interactive technologies hold great potential for the learning process, they are also very disruptive if improperly utilized. **All users and groups** using Londonderry School District Internet access to participate in these interactive technologies without an educational purpose will be subject to disciplinary action.

Clearly, the Londonderry School District Internet access can serve as a means for improving, extending and enriching teaching and learning in the Londonderry School District. Thus, the Londonderry School District firmly believes that the educational benefits to staff and students from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration or interaction, far exceed the disadvantages.

#### B. Londonderry School District Web Presence

The Londonderry School District's presence on the Internet has been established to communicate the happenings of the Londonderry School District with staff, students, parents, community members and the world. The District's Website ([www.londonderry.org](http://www.londonderry.org)) is intended to convey general information about the District's schools, events, curricula or programs of study, and policies and procedures. All information or material must be professional, ethical and meet the standards required of other district publications. As such, it is not a forum for regularly hosting publications for non-Londonderry School District events or organizations. The District uniformly prohibits unauthorized hyperlinks from its sections to other websites. Any unauthorized hyperlink to the School District or schools section is a violation of this policy, subject to disciplinary action.

**All users and groups** who wish to post information on or attach web pages to the District's website sections must complete and submit to the District a signed copy of the Web Acceptable Use Policy Agreement Form. If the proposed Web Acceptable Use Policy Agreement Form is approved by the Londonderry School District, then the information of the student or organization will be subject to review to ensure compliance with the District's Digital Technology/Electronic Media Acceptable Use Policy and any other applicable District policies, as well as copyright laws. **All users and groups** understand that the Web Acceptable Use Policy Agreement Form is a contract. As part of this contract, the Londonderry School District reserves the right to at any time, without advance notice to **all users and groups** to monitor, access, modify, remove, review, and/or retrieve the subject, content, and appropriateness of any and all information stored or transmitted on the District's sections of the Londonderry Website, hyperlinks or web pages attached to these sections. Original **user and group** work that is posted will be protected by copyright laws and the District will act as an intermediary for any request for permission to use and/or publish student work.

In order to maintain the safety of the Londonderry School District students, student work or materials, pictures of students, and any such other information that would allow for the identification of students, will only be allowed after the receipt of written permission from students and their parent(s) or guardian(s). All information about students posted will comply with the District's policy on student records, the Federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, and any other applicable state or federal law.

The creator of any District web page is responsible for ensuring that the information contained therein is of the highest editorial standard (spelling, punctuation, grammar, style, et cetera). The

information should be factually accurate and current. If errors are observed, the Director of Technology, principal or designated school personnel should be contacted to make the necessary corrections.

All teacher and staff professional websites must reflect the high educational standards of the Londonderry School District. There may be no links from a teacher's or staff member's professional website to his or her personal website or to other websites of a non-educational nature except with permission from the Building Principal, the Director of Technology, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

All links from a School's website to sites outside the Londonderry School District network must be approved by the Director of Technology, the Building Principal or his/her designee. At all times, there must be a good faith effort to verify the authenticity of material posted on the District's websites.

## II. Definition and Purpose

"Digital Technology" is any device that creates, transmits, or accesses digital information, whether connected to the network or used in a stand-alone situation. "Digital information" or "Electronic Media" is any data created, transmitted, or accessed by digital technology.

"Educational" refers to the process of teaching and learning that is tied to the curriculum of the Londonderry School District or the Common Core State Standards.

The Londonderry Public Schools provides access to its data network and Internet portal (the "network") **all users and groups**. This network includes all hardware used to deliver and receive data, as well as all software instrumental in viewing and working with data over the network. Any computer – **whether purchased by the District or owned by the individual** – that is connected to our network at any time is considered part of the network and, thus, is subject to the terms of the Londonderry School District Digital Technology/Electronic Media Acceptable Use Policy.

## III. District Limitation of Liability

The Londonderry School District makes no warranties of any kind; either expressed or implied that the functions or the services provided by or through its network will be error free or without defect.

The District will not be responsible for any damages users may suffer, including but not limited to; loss of data or interruptions in service, personal, physical, psychological and/or monetary damages.

The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the network.

The District will not be responsible for the unauthorized financial obligations arising through the use of the network.

## IV. Due Process

While on the network, the user agrees to take full responsibility for his or her actions. The Londonderry School District will not be held liable for the actions of anyone connecting through our network. Therefore, **all users and groups** shall assume full responsibility – legal, financial, or otherwise – for their use of the network.

Violations of the DT/EM-AUP can carry serious consequences and could result in the immediate suspension of the user's privileges. The Administration and/or the town, county, state or federal authorities may take further disciplinary action. Disciplinary actions will be tailored to meet specific concerns related to the violation. These disciplinary actions may include

suspension/termination of employment or student disciplinary action which may result in suspension or expulsion.

Any questions, suspicions, or allegations concerning adherence to the Digital Technology/Electronic Media Acceptable Use Policy should be brought to the attention of the Director of Technology, Building Principal, or the Superintendent of Schools.

## V. Search and Seizure

The network and all devices (except those purchased personally by the user) attached to it are the Property of the Londonderry School District; therefore these storage systems and the devices are subject to inspection by the administration at any time. District-owned computers, whether attached to the network or not, are subject to inspection by the administration at any time. System users should expect limited privacy regarding the contents of their files stored on the network.

An individual search will be conducted if there is suspicion that a user has violated the DT/EM-AUP or the law. The nature of the investigation will be in relation to the context of the nature of the alleged violation.

## VI. Responsibilities

The Londonderry School District technology resources are provided for **all users and groups** to conduct research, gather information and communicate with others for educational purposes. The Londonderry School District technology resources shall not be utilized for personal, commercial or other non-educational purposes. General school rules for behavior and communications apply to **all users and groups** when using the Londonderry School District technology resources as outlined in the Student Handbook. Acknowledging that the potential for abuse of network resources exists, **all users and groups** and (parents/guardians of those who are minors) must sign the Londonderry School District DT/EM-AUP Agreement Form prior to accessing the Londonderry School District technology resources. All **users and groups** and (parents/guardians of who are minors) shall assume full liability, whether legal, financial or otherwise, for students' actions when using the Londonderry School District technology resources. Similarly, outside of school, parents and guardians bear responsibility for the appropriate guidance of their children on the Internet, as they do with other information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio or other potentially offensive media.

Responsible use of the Londonderry School District technology resources includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- i. Not interfering with the normal and proper operation of the Londonderry School District computers, network, e-mail system, website or Internet access;
- ii. **All users and groups** will not use the Londonderry School Districts' digital technology to defame, slander or libel any person.
- iii. No Cyberbullying, which is the use by one or more students using electronic technology which includes but not limited to: devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chats, and websites and/or assumes the identity of another person, that (a) causes physical or emotional harm to the victim or damage to the victim's property; (b) places the victim in reasonable fear of harm to themselves or of damage to their property; (c) creates a hostile environment at school for the victim; (d) infringes on the rights of the victim at school; or (e) materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of the school.
- iv. Not conducting themselves in ways that are harmful or deliberately offensive to others;

- v. Not using the technology resources for illegal purposes;
- vi. Not using school technology or network resources in “hacking” attempts or attempts to otherwise compromise system security;
- vii. Not using electronic mail, chat rooms or other forms of direct electronic communication unless in a supervised environment;
- viii. Not disclosing personal information such as name, school, address, personal email address, and telephone number outside of the school network other than to access school approved educational resources;
- ix. Not changing files that do not belong to the user;
- x. Not storing or transferring unnecessarily large files;
- xi. Not creating, transferring or otherwise using any text, image, movie or sound recording that contains pornography, profanity, obscenity or language that offends or tends to degrade others;
- xii. Not attempting to install any software on the computers;
- xiii. Not sharing personal passwords or personal information with others;
- xiv. Not leaving personal files open or leaving computer sessions unattended;
- xv. Logging onto the network and using only your account
- xvi. Immediately notifying a parent or guardian, classroom teacher, principal or appropriate District employee if others are trying to contact them for unlawful or suspicious activities.

## VII. E-mail

All e-mail created by an employee of a government unit is a public record. Any member of the public may request copies of e-mail. Please note that even deleted messages are subject to disclosure because they are required to be backed up in our archives.

Users should consider e-mail messages to be equivalent to letters sent on official letterhead and therefore should be written in a professional and courteous tone. Tone is often difficult to discern in electronic communication and thus should not be regarded as a replacement for face to face communication.

Faculty, staff, or students must not subscribe to mass electronic mailings (e.g. “chain letters”, “jokes of the day”, “horoscopes”, “trivia”, et cetera). Mass mailings take up valuable network space that should be used for educational purposes. If a faculty member joins a professional (educational) listserv, it is requested that he/she subscribe in digest form. Please contact the listserv administrator or a member of the IT Department for instructions on how to accomplish this.

Students are not allowed to access non-school email accounts, including chat and instant messaging. In the event that students are given e-mail accounts through the Londonderry School District, all e-mail rules stated in this DT/EM-AUP apply.

Email accounts issued by the Londonderry School District may not be used to bully, harass, or threaten an individual or organization; accounts will not be used to send chain letters, viruses, or hoaxes to other students, faculty, or individuals.

**All user and group** email accounts are filtered for language and content; any email that contains inappropriate language or content will not be delivered and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. Disciplinary actions will be tailored to meet specific concerns related to the violation.

## VIII. Privilege

The use of the Londonderry School District technology resources is a privilege and not a right. The Londonderry School District technology resources are only provided for educational purposes to **all users and groups**, and shall not constitute a public forum.

Behaviors and activities that shall result in appropriate disciplinary action include, but are not limited to:

- i. Using the technology resources for commercial, financial and/or personal gain, including solicitation and business of any nature;
- ii. Using the technology resources for political lobbying, except as expressly allowed, during a school activity;
- iii. Using the technology resources for promoting, supporting or celebrating religion or religious institutions;
- iv. Using profanity, vulgarity, obscenity or other language which tends to be offensive or tends to degrade others;
- v. Accessing, viewing, storing or transferring profanity, vulgarity, obscene, sexually explicit or pornographic materials;
- vi. Sending hate mail, anonymous messages or threatening messages;
- vii. Sending "chain" type letters and unsolicited bulk mails (spamming);
- viii. Using harassing, racial, sexist or discriminatory remarks and other antisocial behaviors;
- ix. Using e-mail, news groups, list servers, instant chat rooms and discussion groups for non-educational purposes;
- x. Wasting limited resources, including paper;
- xi. Using invasive software such as "viruses", "worms" and other detrimental activities;
- xii. Using encryption or security measures to avoid monitoring or review in the ordinary course of business or routine maintenance by the system administrator or District staff;
- xiii. Attempting to log-on to the network as the system administrator;
- xiv. Using someone else's password;
- xv. Misrepresenting oneself as another user;
- xvi. Trespassing in another's folders, work, files or e-mails;
- xvii. Revealing personal information about others;
- xviii. Infiltrating, disrupting or interfering with others' use of the Londonderry School District technology resources or infiltrating, disrupting or interfering with others' use of outside computing systems or networks;
- xix. Intentionally infringing upon the intellectual property rights of others in computer programs or electronic information, including plagiarism and/or unauthorized use or reproduction;
- xx. Transferring, utilizing or storing material in violation of copyright laws or license agreements;
- xxi. Involvement in any activity prohibited by law or School District policy;
- xxii. Creating hyperlinks between the Londonderry School District sections of the Londonderry Website and other Internet sites;
- xxiii. Off school premises computer use, web page creation and Internet access for the purpose of disrupting the learning process by any of the means listed above.

Use of the District's technology resources for any altruistic or charitable purpose must be approved in advance by the District. The Londonderry School District reserves the right to add and include additional behaviors and activities that can result in appropriate disciplinary action.

## IX. Intentional Violations

The District is aware that violations of this policy may occur under circumstances where **all users and groups** are involuntarily routed to sites containing inappropriate information or material. Accordingly, disciplinary action under this policy shall only result from willful and intentional violations of this policy. Notwithstanding, the District reserves the right to discipline any **user and group** for violations of this policy where it is apparent that the **user and group** knew, or should have known, that violations of this policy were likely to occur as a result of the actions, or inactions, of the **user and group** in question.

Should a violation of the DT/EM-AUP occur, disciplinary actions **shall result in, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:**

- i. Restriction, suspension or revocation of access privileges;
- ii. Removal from a class activity;
- iii. Removal from a course;
- iv. Removal from an extracurricular activity;
- v. Detention, suspension or expulsion;
- vi. Referral to the appropriate legal authorities for possible criminal prosecution;
- vii. Civil liability.

#### X. Privacy

**All users and groups** have no rights of privacy with regard to their use of the Londonderry School District technology resources, which include but not limited to the Londonderry School District computers, network, electronic mail system (e-mail), and District sections of the Londonderry Website and Internet access. The Londonderry School District retains ownership and possessory control of its technology resources. The District does not guarantee, and **all users and groups** should not have any expectation of; confidentiality, privacy, security or ownership of the content of any information accessed, sent, received, created or stored thereon. **All users and groups** should realize that electronic communications and other information sent through the Internet are accessible by third parties, specifically the Internet Service Provider.

The Londonderry School District technology resources are maintained and managed by a network administrator in such a way as to insure its availability and reliability in performing the Londonderry School District educational mission. **All users and groups** are advised that the District's technology resources are treated as a shared filing system, which means that in the ordinary course of business, pursuit of educational purposes, routine maintenance, or in the course of an investigation to protect the health, welfare and safety of the District, its staff and students, a network administrator or other authorized District staff member may, at any time, without advance notice to **all users and groups**, monitor, access, modify, remove, review, retrieve, and/or disclose the subject, content and appropriateness of any and all information stored or transmitted on District technology resources, including information that may have been deleted but still exists on the system. **All users and groups** are put on notice that deleted files or messages are never completely removed and may be retrieved or restored. **All users and groups** should not save their personal work on computer hard drives or the network, but rather should use a personal storage device for saving their work. **All users and groups** shall frequently delete old files. During routine maintenance the network administrator may delete files stored on any of the Londonderry School District technology resources.

The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the technology services it is providing. While the Londonderry School District will make every effort to preserve data, the responsibility for it lies with the students. The District will not be held responsible for any damages a student may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, misdeliveries or service interruption caused by its own negligence or student errors or

omissions. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its technology resources. **All users and groups** must fully understand that the use of any information obtained through the Internet is at their own risk.

The Londonderry School District reserves the right to record all Internet addresses and electronic communications accessed by **all users and groups**. Likewise, the District has the right to determine what information is posted on its website and it will routinely monitor all technology resources in order to maintain their integrity and to ensure compliance with this policy. Any and all violations of this policy detected by the network administrator will be reported to the School Principal or appropriate District Administrator for disciplinary action.

#### XI. Personal Computers

Faculty, staff and student personal computers may be configured for the Londonderry School Districts' network with approval from the Director of Technology. Personal computers are not the property of the Londonderry School District and will not be serviced by the Technology Department. Personal computers must have up-to-date virus protection software in order to be placed on the District's network.

#### XII. Copyrighted and Other Proprietary Materials

It is the intent of the Londonderry School District to adhere to the provisions of the U.S. Copyright Act, the license agreements and/or policy statements contained in software packages used by the District. **All users and groups** shall be responsible for respecting the copyright and proprietary interest of any materials accessed through the Londonderry School District technology resources. **All users and groups** may not duplicate copyrighted materials, graphics or software, including school owned software, without permission from the copyright holder, unless the use falls within the legal parameters of the Fair Use Doctrine, whether for personal use or for the use of others. The improper duplication or use of copyrighted materials is a violation of this policy and is subject to disciplinary action, as well as possible civil liability and criminal prosecution.

#### XIII. Complaints

If violations of this policy occur, **all users and groups** shall inform the classroom teacher, School Principal or appropriate District Administrator. The classroom teacher, school principal or appropriate District employee shall document all complaints in writing. Every effort will be made to protect the anonymity of the reporting person, but it cannot always be guaranteed. The School Principal or appropriate District Administrator shall conduct an investigation of the complaint and shall report any disciplinary action taken.

Students who are disciplined as a result of this policy have the same appeal procedure as any disciplinary action, which is through the School Principal or appropriate District Administrator, the Superintendent and the School Board.

#### LONDONDERRY SCHOOL BOARD

Adopted: January 22, 2002

Amended: September 7, 2004

Amended: May 6, 2008

Adopted: October 22, 2013