

# **DESOTO COUNTY SCHOOLS**

## **Student Technology Acceptable Use Policy**

**Dear Parent/Guardian & Student:**

**DeSoto County School System is pleased to offer students access to computer usage to enhance academic development and skills in using media that are commonly found in all aspects of our daily lives. DeSoto County Schools is CIPA (Child Internet Protection Act) and COPPA (Children's On-line Privacy Protection Act) compliant. Recognizing that no filtering solution can be 100% effective, it is understood that all technology protection measures do not and will not work perfectly. In complying with CIPA, DCS is expected to engage in a "good faith effort" to abide by the requirements of CIPA/FERPA. CIPA/FERPA does not create a private right to action, meaning that the discovery of objectionable material on a computer cannot result in a lawsuit complaining that a school violated CIPA/FERPA.**

**Due to the fragile nature of the equipment being used and the nature of much of the material available over the Internet, this form must be signed by you and your child before use of the equipment will be allowed. The use of the Internet is a PRIVILEGE, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges and/or disciplinary action. The administrator of the school and/or the school technology committee will determine if an action is inappropriate use and their decision is final. This is a legal and binding document.**

As a DeSoto County School parent, I understand that my child is enrolled in the DeSoto County School System and will need to be able to use the computers/equipment at school. I understand, as well, that my child may be involved in research projects and class activities involving the Internet. As parent or guardian, I also understand that I will be responsible for my child concerning the following items:

1. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school for illegal purposes of any kind.
2. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school to transmit, receive, or view material that is pornographic in nature.
3. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school to transmit, receive or view material that is threatening or harassing in nature.
4. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school in an attempt to gain access or "hack" into computer systems that they have no permission to use.
5. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school to access any student records existing on the schools' networks.
6. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school to propagate computer viruses.
7. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school for the purpose of lobbying or distributing of political information.
8. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school for commercial ventures of purchasing, selling, taking orders or placing orders. DeSoto County Schools is not responsible for credit card fraud and theft incurred by using personal or commercial credit card numbers on the Internet access provided at my school.
9. Students will not damage, abuse or misuse the equipment provided for their use at their school.
10. Students will not make changes to the screen or appearance of the desktop on computers provided at their school.
11. Students will not load games or other software brought from home or downloaded from the Internet onto the computers provided for their use.
12. Students will not attempt to bypass school internet filters by way of internet proxy sites.
13. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school to access social networking websites, chat rooms, instant messaging systems, etc.
14. Students will not use the Internet provided at their school to engage in Cyberbullying of any type.
15. Students will not use the Internet and/or computer to violate any state or federal law (ie. Copyright law).

The above terms take into consideration the necessity for Internet access for educational purposes as well as personal development. The primary purpose of the Internet access provided by DeSoto County Schools is for research and discovery or educational media and information.

**\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE RETAIN THIS PAGE FOR YOUR INFORMATION \*\*\*\*\***  
**\*\*\*\*\* TO BE KEPT ON FILE AT SCHOOL AND TRACKED THROUGH POWERSCHOOL\*\*\*\*\***