

EXCELSIOR CLASSICAL ACADEMY

STAFF AND STUDENT

TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY FOR ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

All Excelsior students and staff are responsible for their actions and activities involving the school district's computers, electronic devices, personal devices, network and Internet services, and for their computer files, passwords and accounts. These rules provide general guidance concerning the use of school computers and other electronic devices and provide examples of prohibited uses. The rules and guidelines detail acceptable use of electronic information resources under which students, staff, and all members of the Excelsior community, herein referred to as "users," will be held accountable. The rules do not attempt to describe every possible prohibited activity. Students, parents and school staff who have questions about whether a particular activity is prohibited are encouraged to contact a building administrator. These rules apply to all school computers, personal devices, school provided electronic devices wherever used, all uses of school servers, and Internet access and networks regardless of how they are accessed.

Acceptable Use

1. School computers, personal devices, network and Internet services, and electronic resources are provided for educational purposes and research consistent with Excelsior educational mission, curriculum and instructional goals.
2. Users must comply with all Board policies, the student handbook, and school rules and expectations concerning conduct and communications when using school computers, personal devices or school-issued electronic resources, whether on or off school property.
3. Students also must comply with all specific instructions from school staff.

Prohibited Uses

Unacceptable uses of school electronic resources include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Accessing or Communicating Inappropriate Materials – Users may not access, submit, post, publish, forward, download, scan or display defamatory, abusive, obscene, vulgar, sexually explicit, sexually suggestive, threatening, discriminatory, harassing, bullying and/or illegal materials or messages.
2. Illegal Activities – Users may not use the school district's computers, personal devices, electronic devices, networks, or Internet services for any illegal activity or in violation of any Board policy/procedure or school rules. Excelsior and its employees and agents assume no responsibility for illegal activities of students while using school computers or school-issued electronic resources.
3. Violating Copyrights or Software Licenses – Downloading, copying, duplicating and distributing software, music, sound files, movies, images or other copyrighted materials without the specific written permission of the copyright owner is prohibited, except when the use falls within the Fair Use Doctrine of the United States Copyright Law (Title 17, USC) and content is cited appropriately.

4. Plagiarism – Users may not represent as their own work any materials obtained on the Internet (such as term papers, articles, music, etc.). When using other sources, credit must be given to the copyright holder.
5. Use for Non-School-Related Purposes - School district's computers, electronic devices, personal devices, networks and Internet services are provided for purposes related to educational programs, school operations, and performance of job responsibilities. Incidental personal use of school devices is permitted as long as such use: 1) does not interfere with the user's responsibilities and performance; 2) does not interfere with system operations or other system users; and 3) does not violate this policy and the accompanying rules, or any other Board policy, procedure or school rules. "Incidental personal use" is defined as use by an individual for occasional personal communications.
6. Misuse of Passwords/Unauthorized Access – Users may not share passwords; use other users' passwords; access or use other users' accounts; or attempt to circumvent network security systems.
7. Malicious Use/Vandalism – Users may not engage in any malicious use, disruption or harm to the school district's computers, electronic devices, network and Internet services, including but not limited to hacking activities and creation/uploading of computer viruses.
8. Avoiding School Filters – Users may not attempt to or use any software, utilities or other means to access Internet sites or content blocked by the school filters.
9. Unauthorized Access to Blogs/Social Networking Sites, Etc. – Users may not access blogs, social networking sites, etc. prohibited by building administration or the Excelsior Technology Department. Teachers and students using authorized social networking sites for educational projects or activities shall follow the age requirements and legal requirements that govern the use of social networking sites in addition to the guidelines established in this policy.
10. Wasting System Resources - Users shall not use the network in such a way that would waste system resources or disrupt the use of the network by others. This includes but is not limited to excessive printing, file storage, online games, and video/audio streaming not directly related to educational projects, as determined by the supervising instructor or building administrator.

Compensation for Losses, Costs and/or Damages

Users may be responsible for compensating the school district for any losses, costs or damages incurred for violations of Board policies/procedures and school rules, including the cost of investigating such violations. The school district assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or costs incurred by users while using school district computers, personal devices, school devices, or the school network.

Student Security

Users may not reveal personal information, including a home address and phone number, about themselves or another individual on any unsecured electronic medium,

such as web sites, blogs, podcasts, videos, wikis, or social networking sites. If users encounter dangerous or inappropriate information or messages, they shall notify the school administration immediately.

Staff may post student pictures on district/school/classroom “public” websites as long as the student’s name is not included on the district “No Photo Release” listing.

The use of cameras in any type of electronic device is strictly prohibited in locker rooms and restrooms.

Excelsior staff must maintain the confidentiality of student data in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Students may be issued a school email address to improve student communication and collaboration on school projects. Email shall be used only for educational purposes that directly relates to a school project or assignment.

Technology Privacy

The Excelsior retains the right to access and review all electronic and voice mail, computer files, databases, internet activity, and any other electronic transmissions contained in or used in conjunction with district’s computer system, telephone system, electronic mail system, and voice mail system. Students and staff should have no expectation that any information contained on such systems is confidential or private.

System Security

Any user who identifies a security problem must notify his/her teacher or administrator immediately. The user shall not demonstrate the problem to others or access unauthorized material. Staff shall immediately report any potential security breaches to the Technology Department.

Additional Rules for Laptops, iPads, or other Electronic Devices Issued to Students or Staff

1. Electronic devices loaned or leased to students or staff shall be used only for educational purposes that directly relate to a school project or assignment, unless otherwise explicitly authorized by building administration.
2. Users are responsible for the proper care of electronic devices at all times, whether on or off school property, including costs associated with repairing or replacing the device.
3. Users must report a lost or stolen device to the building administration immediately. If a device is stolen, a report also should be made immediately with the school safety officer and/or local police.
4. The policy and rules apply to the use of the electronic device at any time or place, on or off school property. Students are responsible for obeying any additional rules concerning care of devices issued by school staff.

5. Violation of policies or rules governing the use of electronic devices or any careless use of the device may result in a student's device being confiscated and/or a student only being allowed to use the device under the direct supervision of school staff. The student will also be subject to disciplinary action for any violations of Board policies/procedures or school rules.
6. The device configuration shall not be altered in any way by users. No software applications shall be installed, removed, or altered on the device unless permission is explicitly given by the teacher or building administrator.
7. The device is to be used only by the student or staff member to whom it is issued. The person to whom the device is issued will be responsible for any activity or action performed on the device.
8. The device must be returned in acceptable working order by the last day of each school year, upon withdrawal or exit date from the school district, and whenever requested by school staff.

Terms of Use

Excelsior reserves the right to deny, revoke or suspend specific user privileges and/or take other disciplinary action, including suspensions or expulsion from school, for violations of this policy. Additionally, all handbook regulations apply to the use of the Excelsior network, Internet, and electronic resources.

Disclaimer – The District will make every effort to provide appropriate Electronic Resources, however, Excelsior, its employees, and agents make no warranties of any kind, neither expressed nor implied, concerning the Electronic Resources it is providing. Furthermore, Excelsior is not responsible for:

1. The accuracy, nature, quality, or privacy of information stored on local servers or devices or information gathered through Internet access.
2. Any damages suffered by a user (whether the cause is accidental or not) including but not limited to, loss of data, delays or interruptions in service, and the infection of viruses or other malware on personal computers or other devices.
3. Unauthorized financial obligations resulting from the use of Excelsior electronic resources.
4. Providing access to students for charging personal devices.