

Student Acceptable Use Policy

The Polson School District recognizes the need for its staff and students to have access to a global information network. Part of the district's responsibility in preparing students is to provide them with access to tools they will be using as effective learning and that responsible use of this global information network is important.

Accordingly, the Polson School District shall operate an information network to enhance and expand its educational mission. The Polson Public Schools Information Network System is defined as the information system owned by the district as well as other information systems to which the district provides intentional or unintentional access. The district is not responsible for information available from third parties solely for providing access or connection to or from a facility, system, or network over which it has no control. The use of this system shall be consistent with the district's educational mission, district policy, and state and federal laws.

Students and parents/guardians must sign an agreement to abide by the personal safety restrictions and policies governing the Polson Public Schools Information Network System before access to the Internet will be allowed.

Student Personal Safety Restrictions

- Users will not post personal contact information about themselves or other people. Personal contact information includes personal address, telephone, work address, etc...
- Users will not agree to meet with someone they have met online without their parent's approval and participation.
- Users will promptly disclose to a teacher or other school employee any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.

User Responsibility

- Receive permission to utilize the Polson Public Schools Information Network System.
- Comply with all existing school board policies as they may be interpreted to apply to technology resources.
- Respect the privacy of other users, and not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users without permission.
- Comply with legal protection provided by copyright and license to programs, data, and documents.
- Help maintain the security of the district resources by adhering to all security rules developed by the Polson Technology Committee and/or the user's building technology committee.
- Comply with the acceptable use policies of all third party technology resources to which the district has access.

Acceptable Use

- Use consistent with the mission of the Polson School District.
- Use that encourages efficient, cooperative, and creative methods to perform educational tasks.
- Use related to instructional, administrative, and other support activities considered consistent with the mission of the district.
- Use of the district technology resources for authorized and appropriate access to voice, video, and data systems, software or data, locally or at other sites.

Unacceptable Use

- Providing, assisting in, or gaining unauthorized or inappropriate access to the district's technology resources, including any type of voice, video, or data information server.
- Activities that interfere with the ability of students/staff members to use the district's technology resources or other network connected services effectively.
- Activities that result in the loss of student/staff member's work or unauthorized access to student/staff member's work. The sharing of personal passwords between students will be considered cheating.
- Collecting or distributing any material in such a manner that might cause congestion of the voice, video, and data networks.
- Seeking, collecting, or distributing obscene, abusive or threatening material via telephone, video, electronic mail, internet or other means.

The superintendent shall establish acceptable use guidelines for student and staff use of the Polson Public Schools Information Network System.

Student Handbook Acknowledgement and Student Internet Access Agreement

Each student enrolled at Polson High School will be issued a student handbook during orientation the first day of school. The handbook includes the policies and procedures that students are required to follow at Polson High School. Students and parents/guardians should also be familiar with the Policies and Procedures of the SD#23 Board of Education, which can be accessed at <http://www.polson.k12.mt.us> or can be accessed at the district office.

The Polson School District is pleased to offer its students supervised access to the internet. This computer technology will help propel Polson's schools through the communication age by allowing students and staff to access and use resources from distant computers, to communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups around the world, and significantly expand the available information base. The internet is a tool for lifelong learning.

Families should be aware that some material accessible via the internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or offensive to some people. In addition, it is possible to purchase certain goods and services via the internet that could result in unwanted financial obligation for which a student's parent or guardian would be liable.

Some courses may require students to use email to accomplish course goals. Students in these courses may receive an email account on request from their supervising teacher. These email accounts will be run from the Polson Public Schools Information Network System and are to be used for educational purposes for meeting course requirements. Email accounts acquired through other means may not be accessed during class time.

While the Polson School District's intent is to make internet access available in order to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. Even when the district institutes technical methods or systems to regulate students' internet access, those methods can not guarantee compliance with the Polson School District's acceptable use policy. That notwithstanding, the Polson School District believes that the benefits to students in accessing the internet exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, however, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. The Polson School District makes its acceptable use policy and guidelines for acceptable use available on request and at the district web site (<http://www.polson.k12.mt.us>) for review for all parents, guardians, and other members of the community; and also provides parents and guardians the option of requesting for their children activities not requiring internet use.

Student Section **Student Name** _____ **Grade** _____

I have read this agreement and the Student Acceptable Use Policy (see reverse). I agree to follow the rules contained in this policy. I understand that if I violate the rules, access to computers or the Internet may be terminated and I may face other disciplinary measures.

I have also been provided a copy of the Polson High School student handbook and code of conduct and I have read and understand the rules contained therein.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent or Guardian Section

I have read this agreement, the Student Acceptable Use Policy (see reverse), and have read and understand the rules outlined in the Polson High School student handbook and code of conduct.

I hereby release the district, its personnel, and any institutions with which it is affiliated, from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my child's use of, or inability to use, the Polson Public School Information Network System, including, but not limited to claims that may arise from unauthorized use of the network to purchase products or services.

I will instruct my child regarding any restrictions against accessing material that are in addition to the restrictions set forth in the Student Acceptable Use Policy. I will emphasize to my child the important of following the rules for personal safety.

I give permission to issue internet access to my child and certify that the information contained in this form is correct.

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____