Whitefish School District #44
Technology Acceptable Use Agreement

The use of technology at Whitefish School District (WSD) is a privilege not to be abused. The school’s technology agreement applies to all authorized users who access the school’s network or equipment using school-owned or personal equipment, including wireless devices. Students are encouraged to use technology in a variety of ways to support their individual learning styles and to express their creative talents. All students are expected to read this Acceptable Use Agreement and are required to sign the Acceptable Use Agreement Form prior to using any technology within the district. Adherence to this agreement is a condition for a student's use of technology.

Students utilizing District-provided Internet access must first have permission of parents and must be supervised by the Whitefish School District’s professional staff. Students utilizing school-provided Internet access are responsible for good behavior on-line just as they are in a classroom or others areas of the school. The same general rules for behavior and communications apply.

The technology resources at WSD (e.g., all networking, hardware and software, the Internet, email) are provided to support the educational and administrative activities of the school and should be used for those purposes. Use is a privilege, not a right.

Authorized Use

1. An authorized user is any person who has been granted authority by the school’s technology center to access its computing, network and telephone systems and whose usage complies with this agreement. Unauthorized use is strictly prohibited. By accessing the school’s network using school-owned or personally-owned equipment, you have consented to the school’s exercise of its authority and rights as set out in this agreement with respect to any such equipment, as well as with respect to any information or communication stored or transmitted over such equipment.
2. Students are provided with email (Google apps for education) accounts, network accounts and internet access.
3. The Google App student account created by the school district will be managed based on parent permission and requirements for use in classes. In school, teacher
supervision and school content filters are used to prevent access to inappropriate content. Student accounts can be accessed by domain administrators at anytime.

4. Parents assume responsibility for supervision of the internet use outside of school. Parents are encouraged to discuss family rules and expectations for using internet-based tool, including Google Apps for Education.

5. More information on Google Apps for Education can be found here:

Privacy Expectations

1. The school’s network resources, including all telephone and data lines, are the property of the school. The school reserves the right to access, view or monitor any information or communication stored on or transmitted over the network, or on or over equipment that has been used to access the school’s network.

2. Users must recognize that there is no guarantee of privacy associated with their use of school technology resources. Users should not expect that email or other information created or maintained in the system (even when marked “personal” or “confidential”) are private, confidential or secure. All files residing on the District’s equipment are the property of the Whitefish School District.

Responsible Use

1. No user may act in ways that invade the privacy of others, are unethical or fail to comply with all legal restrictions regarding the use of electronic data. All users must also recognize and not violate the intellectual property rights of others.

2. Disclosing and/or gossiping about confidential or proprietary information related to Whitefish Schools, making public remarks that defame or disparage the school, its personnel, its students or its interests (via means including but not limited to email, internet instant messaging, chat rooms, web pages or websites), or that recklessly disregards or distorts the truth of the matters commented on, is prohibited.

3. All users must refrain from acts that waste school technology resources or prevent others from using them. Users will not access, modify or delete others’ files or system settings without express permission. Tampering of any kind is strictly forbidden. Deliberate attempts to tamper with or degrade the performance of a school computer system, telephone system or network, or to deprive authorized users of access to or use of such resources, are prohibited.

4. Students may not send broadcast email without prior permission from their building administrator.

5. Users are responsible for both the content and possible effects of their messages on the network. Prohibited activity includes, but is not limited to, creating or propagating
viruses, material in any form (text, sound, pictures or video) that reflects adversely on the school, “chain letters” (which proffer incentives to relay them to others), inappropriate messages (including discriminatory or harassing material), and billable services.

6. Users shall not Copyright: copy and forward; copy and download; or copy and upload to the network or Internet server any copyrighted material, without approval by the computer system operator, a teacher, or school administrator. Copyrighted material is anything written by someone else. It could be an e-mail message, a game, a story, or software. Do not plagiarize others work.

7. No software may be installed, except as permitted by applicable law or school administration, copied or used on school equipment except as permitted by law. All software license provisions must be strictly adhered to.

Bring your own Device (BYOD) - where permitted

1. Students may bring laptops (Windows, Apple, Linux), iPads, Android-based tablets, Kindle Fire, Smartphones, and other devices as they become available. These devices may be used in any class to meet educational goals as long as students have permission from the teacher. The appropriate times and places for use of personal equipment may vary in different buildings, please refer to your student handbook for rules and restrictions about the use of these devices.

2. Users are required to have updated virus protection software on their computers when connecting to the school network. In order to avoid damaging their computers and bringing destructive viruses into the school’s system, users are cautioned not to open email attachments or download any files from unknown sources. Any computer found to be infected with viruses or malware to the extent that it may negatively affect other computers or general network performance will lose network services. Services will be restored once a member of the Technology department has verified that all viruses and malware have been removed and proper, updated antivirus software is installed.

3. Students are reminded that all use of electronics on school property is expected to be appropriate at all times. In the library and during academic flex, devices may be used for educational purposes only. Use of headphones for audio is required. In the classroom all devices will be used for educational purposes only and only used at the discretion of the teacher. Cell phones are not to be used or visible while in the hallways.

4. As with all technology use, personal or school-owned, students may use technology for educational purposes with the permission of the teacher or an administrator. The Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires all network access to be filtered,
regardless of the device used, while in a public school. Even though students own the device, the Guest Network belongs to the school, so Internet access will be filtered. Students must have permission of the teacher in order to record a video and post it on YouTube or to take pictures of other students during class and send them electronically to friends. At no time may a cell phone be used in the locker-room or restrooms.

5. The acceptable use agreement pertains to both your own device and the network. If you lose your privilege on one, you lose your privilege on both for the same amount of time, based on school discipline procedure. In other words, if you lose your privilege by an AUA violation you cannot use your own device OR the school network for the same specified time. Students bring personal devices to school at their own risk, just like any other personal items. The district will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or misplaced devices or items. Some devices have a device locator; parents and/or students may want to enable this feature if possible.

Inappropriate Materials

1. Users shall not use the Whitefish School District computer network to purchase goods, solicit sales or conduct business (e.g. by posting an advertisement to a new group). Users shall not set up web pages to advertise or sell a service.

2. The school prohibits students from keeping pornography in any form at school, including, but not limited to, magazines, posters, videos, electronic files or other electronic materials.

3. Accessing the school’s network or equipment to create, access, download, edit, view, store, send or print materials that are illegal, offensive, harassing, intimidating, discriminatory, sexually explicit or graphic, pornographic, obscene or otherwise inconsistent with the values and general standards for community behavior of the school is prohibited.

Security

1. Each user is responsible for the security and integrity of information stored on his or her computer. Computer accounts, passwords, security codes and other types of authorization are assigned to individual users and must not be shared with or used by others. WSD, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to bypass such passwords and to access, view or monitor its systems and all of their contents. By accessing the school’s system, you have consented to the school’s right to monitor its system and all of its contents.

2. Removing or relocating school-owned technology resources requires prior authorization from the director of technology.
3. Users may not attempt to circumvent or subvert the security provisions of any other system.
4. For security and network stability reasons, personally-owned devices such as hubs, switches, routers, wireless access points and servers or server services cannot be installed on the school’s network or anywhere on campus, unless authorized by the director of technology.

Agreement Enforcement and Discipline

1. All members of the community are expected to assist in the enforcement of this agreement. Persons in violation of this agreement are subject to a full range of sanctions, including, but not limited to, the loss of computer access, telephone or network privileges, disciplinary action, dismissal or termination from the school. Some violations may constitute criminal offenses as defined by local, state and federal laws, and the school may initiate or assist in the prosecution of any such violations to the full extent of the law.

2. Any suspected violation of this agreement should be reported immediately to the director of technology, as well as to the head of the school.

3. Violation of the District agreement and rules will result in the loss of access to the Whitefish School District computer system. First infraction will result in the removal from the computer network for 20 school days. Second infraction will result in the removal from the computer network for 40 school days. Third infraction will result in the removal from the computer network for 80 school days. Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in keeping with existing procedures and/or severity of the infraction. When and where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.
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The Acceptable Use Agreement can be found on your school's website, in your student handbook and/or can be printed for you upon requested.

Student Consent:

I have reviewed the Whitefish School District Acceptable Use Agreement and reviewed it with my parent/guardian. I agree to follow the rules contained in this agreement. I understand that if I violate the rules there are penalties for improper use as specified in the Whitefish School District Acceptable Use Agreement.

_____________________________  Grade: ________________
Printed Name of Student:

_____________________________  Date: ________________
Signature of Student:

Student Location:

- Whitefish High School
- Independent High School
- Whitefish Middle School
- Muldown Elementary

Parental Consent: (Students under the age of eighteen must have a signed parental consent)

I have read and understand that my child must abide by the Whitefish School District’s Acceptable Use Agreement. I understand that my child’s Internet activities will be monitored by the District, and any violation may result in the loss of computer privileges, discipline, and/or appropriate legal action.

☐ In addition, I give my permission for my child to be assigned a Whitefish School District Google Apps for Education account. This means the child will receive an email account and access to Google Apps resources.

_____________________________
Printed Name of Parent or Guardian:

_____________________________  Date __________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian: