

RESPONSIBLE USE POLICY

This Responsible Use Policy supports Bastrop Independent School District's (BISD) vision of technology use and upholds in our users a strong sense of digital citizenship. This policy applies to all BISD computer networks, the resources available on those networks, and all devices connected to those networks.

General Policies

- The purpose of a BISD user account is to access the BISD network. District students and staff use this network to support communication and collaboration. We use technology to extend research and information fluency, to collect and analyze data, and to solve problems.
- Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility, and inappropriate use may result in cancellation of those privileges.
- BISD user accounts are owned by BISD; consequently they are subject to the Open Records Act. BISD reserves the right to monitor and access all accounts at anytime without notice in order to maintain system integrity and to ensure responsible use.
- Users should have no expectation of personal privacy in any matters stored, created, received, or sent through the BISD computer network. These are subject to review by BISD any time, with or without notice, with or without cause, and without the permission of the user.
- A content filtering program is in place in order to prevent access to certain sites that may contain inappropriate material, such as pornography, weapons, illegal drugs, gambling, and any other topics deemed to be of non-educational value by BISD.
- BISD is not responsible for the content accessed by users who connect via their own wireless service (cell phones, air-cards, etc.).

Responsible Use and Digital Citizenship

Technology is to be utilized in conformity with laws of the United States and the State of Texas. Accounts and devices are for school related activities only and should avoid all offensive material. Offensive material includes, but is not limited to, pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material, sexual comments, jokes, or images that would violate school policies.

Users will respect all copyright laws and refrain from copying, selling, or distributing copyrighted material without the express written permission of the author or publisher. Users will suitably cite any and all use of websites, books, media, etc.

BISD policies against harassment and discrimination also apply to the use of technology. Technology will not be used to bully, harass, stalk, or tease other people or publicly defame people through published material. Users will help maintain a safe computing environment by notifying appropriate campus officials of inappropriate behavior, vandalism, vulnerabilities, risks, and breaches of BISD policy involving campus technology. If the user is uncertain whether an activity is permitted or appropriate, he/she will ask a teacher/administrator before engaging in that activity.

Users will create online names that are appropriate and use appropriate language/content in all online posts. Users will not publish personal details or contact details for themselves or anyone else. Users will not make online schedules available for public viewing. Users will not make audio or video recordings of students/employees without their prior permission. Users understand that posing as someone else is forbidden and will not pose as a user other than themselves when online.

Users understand that they are responsible for all activity initiated by and/or performed under these accounts and that it is the user's responsibility to appropriately secure his/her account credentials. The user should also understand that it is his/her responsibility for maintaining and backing up all data.

Users may not attempt to disable, bypass, access, manipulate, or install any application or hardware on the BISD network without the consent of district administration.

Bring Your Own Tools

BISD allows staff and students the option to Bring Your Own Tools (BYOT). Staff may use a personal device in place of (or along with) their district assigned devices if they choose. Students may use a personal device in class for instructional use with teacher permission. If the BYOT device is damaged or stolen while on BISD property, the user will not hold BISD liable for the replacement or repair of the device. The user will also be responsible for any data and/or SMS/MMS (texting) charges. BISD will not reimburse users for charges incurred while on BYOT devices. Additionally, BISD will not provide technical support for BYOT devices.

The user will have access to only the guest wireless service that BISD has provided. The guest wireless will be filtered by the BISD content filter when BYOT users are connected to the guest wireless service.

Google Apps and Other Student Accounts

In accordance with our district mission, goals, and technology vision our students may require accounts in third-party account systems. Many of these accounts will be used at school for school related projects but may also be accessed outside of school with their parent/guardian permission. The use of these accounts will help our students master effective and proper online communications as required in the PreK-12 Technology Applications Standards.

By signing and returning this document, parents/guardians give permission to BISD to create and manage third party accounts (such as Google Apps for Education which includes email, storage, calendar, etc) for their student with the understanding that the child’s information is protected in accordance with federal & state laws.

Consequences

The user will abide by this Responsible Use Policy. If the user breaches this agreement, the consequences could include suspension of the user’s accounts and network access. In addition, the user could face disciplinary/legal action including, but not limited to, criminal prosecution and/or penalty under appropriate state and federal laws. The Director of Information Technology Services and the campus principal will deem what is considered to be inappropriate use of the BISD computer network. They may suspend an account or network access at any time. Additionally, the administration, faculty, and staff of BISD may request that a user’s account be suspended or denied at any time.

A signed copy of this document must be returned to your school within two weeks of enrollment. If you are a parent and disagree to these policies, please exclude the parent signature from the bottom of the page. If no copy is returned to the campus it will be assumed that you agree to the provisions outlined within it. In the event of registration after September 1, parents/guardians will have two weeks to return this document or it will be assumed you agree to the provisions outlined within.

Please sign and return this page to your school’s office within two weeks of enrollment.

Student/Staff Name

Student/Staff Name

Student/Staff Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian’s Name

Phone #

Parent/Guardian’s Signature

Date