

## ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY – TECHNOLOGY

### **Purpose**

The Fairhaven Public Schools shall provide access for employees and students to the system/network, including access to external networks, for limited educational purposes. Educational purposes shall be defined as classroom activities, career and professional development, and high quality self-discovery activities of an educational nature. The purpose of the system/network is to assist in preparing students for success in life and work by providing access to a wide range of information and the ability to communicate with others. The system/network will be used to increase communication (staff, parent, and student), enhance productivity, and assist staff in upgrading existing skills and acquiring new skills through a broader exchange of information. The system/network will also be utilized to provide information to the community, including parents, governmental agencies, and businesses.

### **Availability**

The Superintendent or designee shall implement, monitor, and evaluate the District's system/network for instructional and administrative purposes.

Access to the system/network, including external networks, shall be made available to employees and students for instructional and administrative purposes and in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures.

Access to the system/network is a privilege, not a right. All users shall be required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of all administrative regulations and procedures governing use of the system and shall agree in writing to comply with such regulations and procedures. Noncompliance with applicable regulations and procedures may result in suspension or termination of user privileges and other disciplinary actions consistent with the policies of the Fairhaven Public Schools. Violations of law may result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by the Fairhaven Public Schools.

### **Acceptable Use**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement administrative regulations, procedures, and user agreements, consistent with the purposes and mission of the Fairhaven Public Schools as well as with law and policy governing copyright.

Except for approved educational purposes, students and employees may not use district or personal electronic devices to engage in social networking of any type (including but not limited to texting, "sexting", myspace, facebook, twitter, or any other social networking site) during school hours or on school property. Violation of this policy may result in appropriate disciplinary action taken against the student or the employee. For students, such disciplinary action may include but is not limited to suspension or revocation of privileges, suspension or expulsion from school, and criminal prosecution. For employees, such disciplinary action may include but is not limited to suspension from or termination of employment, and criminal prosecution. For licensed employees who are terminated or resign due to misconduct associated with this policy, the school district will file any and all reports required by state and federal laws

and regulations, including but not limited to the requirement to report educator misconduct to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

### **Monitored Use**

Electronic mail transmissions and other use of electronic resources by students and employees shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated staff to ensure appropriate use for instructional and administrative purposes.

### **Liability**

The Fairhaven Public Schools shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of electronic resources or violations of copyright restrictions, users' mistakes or negligence, or costs incurred by users. The Fairhaven Public Schools shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy or usability of any information found on external networks.

SOURCE: MASC

S.C. Enacted: August 25, 2010

