

2103 Acceptable Use of Electronic Devices

Purpose

Maeser empowers and inspires students to communicate effectively. A part of effective communication involves knowing when and where it is acceptable to use electronic devices. In accordance with Utah law, private cell phone usage is prohibited during classroom hours.

Maeser offers students and employees access to electronic and network resources for appropriate educational use. The Internet provides students access to massive amounts of educationally useful information. Some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, obscene, or offensive. However, Maeser provides Internet access to further its legitimate educational goals.

Maeser uses filtering software to limit student exposure to inappropriate materials; in addition, teachers monitor classroom use of the Internet to the best of their ability. However, no filtering and monitoring system is capable of blocking 100% of the inappropriate material available on the Internet.

1. Definitions

- a. "Cellphone" means a handheld, portable electronic device that is designed to be operated using one or both hands and is capable of transmitting and receiving voice, data, or text communication by means of:
 - i. a cellular network;
 - ii. a satellite network; or
 - iii. any other wireless technology.
- b. "Cellphone" includes:
 - i. a smartphone;
 - ii. a feature phone;
 - iii. a mobile phone;
 - iv. a satellite phone; or
 - v. a personal digital assistant that incorporates capabilities similar to a smartphone, feature phone, mobile phone, or satellite phone.
- c. "Electronic device" means a device that is used for audio, video, or text communication or any other type of computer or computer-like instrument including but not limited to:
 - i. A smart phone;
 - ii. A smart or electronic watch
 - iii. A tablet; or
 - iv. A virtual reality device.
- d. "Guest" means an individual:
 - i. Who is not a student, employee, or designated volunteer of a public school; and
 - ii. Who is on school property or at the site of a school-sponsored activity or event.

- e. "Inappropriate matter" means pornographic or indecent material as defined in Subsection 76-10-1253(1)(a).
 - f. "Maeser-owned electronic device" means a device that is used for audio, video, text communication, or other type of computer or computer-like instrument that is identified as being owned, provided, issued or lent by Maeser to a student or employee.
 - g. "Privately-owned electronic device" means a device, including an electronic device that is used for audio, video, text communication, or other type of computer or computer-like instrument that is not owned or issued by Maeser to a student, or employee.
 - h. "Classroom hours" means:
 - i. time during which a student receives scheduled, teacher-supervised instruction that occurs:
 - 1. in a physical or virtual classroom setting;
 - 2. during regular school operating hours;
 - 3. and as part of an approved education curriculum.
 - ii. "Classroom hours" does not include:
 - 1. lunch periods;
 - 2. recess;
 - 3. transit time between classes;
 - 4. study halls unless directly supervised by a qualified instructor; after-school activities unless part of an approved extended learning program;
 - 5. or independent study time occurring outside scheduled instruction.
2. Guidelines for Social Media Use
- a. Think critically before posting. Be aware of the permanency of the Internet.
 - b. Act responsibly, as everything online may be accessible to the public.
 - c. Always follow privacy, confidentiality, and/or legal guidelines, including copyright laws.
 - d. Be courteous at all times. Post positive, meaningful, and thoughtful comments. Disagree courteously, without disparaging comments.
 - e. Communicate effectively: comments shall be respectful, honorable, thoughtful, and truthful information. TIP: If something you are about to post makes you uncomfortable, take a minute to consult with others.
 - f. Cyber-bullying is also bullying and is prohibited.
 - g. Report inappropriate online behavior. If it makes you uncomfortable, share concerns with your parents or other responsible adults.
 - h. Seek permission before posting pictures or videos of others.
3. Prohibitions
- a. Students and/or employees are subject to the school discipline policy if they use electronic devices and/or network resources to
 - i. bully, humiliate, harass, or intimidate school-related individuals, including students, employees, and guests, consistent with Utah Admin. Code r. 277-609 and r. 277-613; or

- ii. Violate local, state, or federal law
 - iii. Access inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web while using Maeser equipment, services, or connectivity whether on or off school property.
 - b. Unauthorized access
 - i. Any attempt to bypass school security or content filters using web proxy sites, VPN, alternate search engines or other methods is forbidden. Attempting to disable safe search functionality is forbidden. Unauthorized intrusion (AKA "hacking") of servers, workstations, or network devices is forbidden.
 - c. Unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal student information
 - d. Unauthorized use that would cause invasions of reasonable expectations of student and employee privacy
 - e. Students are prohibited from using privately-owned electronic devices during standardized assessments.
 - f. Connecting unauthorized computers or other electronic equipment to the network
 - g. Assuming network identities, credentials, and access that have not been given to you
 - h. Downloading or using unapproved apps, extensions or plugins on school computers
 - i. Changing or attempting to change administrative settings on school computers
 - j. Creating or sharing Internet connections
 - k. Sharing your Maeser username and password with others
 - l. Sending, storing, or displaying offensive messages, pictures, or other content
 - m. Using obscene language
 - n. Giving personal information, such as complete name, phone number, address, or identifiable photo, without family permission
 - o. Cyber bullying, hate mail, harassment, insults, personal attacks, discriminatory jokes and remarks
 - p. Invasion of privacy through the unauthorized creation of sound recordings, videos, or images;
 - q. Damaging or modifying computers, computer systems, or computer networks; downloading, installing, or using games, audio files, video files, or other applications without permission to do so
 - r. Attempting to bypass network security, filtering and monitoring
 - s. Violating copyright laws
 - t. Trespassing in others' folders, work, or files
 - u. Intentionally wasting resources
 - v. Posting, sending, or storing information that could endanger others or is illegal, including pornography
 - w. Employing the school computers, network, or Internet resources for non-academic, personal, commercial, political, financially gainful, or fraudulent purposes
4. Privacy

- a. Students and/or Maeser Faculty have no expectation of privacy in their use of Maeser-owned devices or Maeser network resources, including stored files and email. Maeser reserves the right to monitor student use of electronic resources to the fullest extent authorized by law.
5. Students
- a. Maeser allows students to possess their privately-owned electronic devices while on campus. However, the use of privately-owned electronic devices while on campus is a privilege, and not a right, and is subject to Maeser policies and discipline.
 - b. Electronic Device Usage
 - i. Students cannot use their privately-owned electronic devices during classroom hours
 - ii. Students may use a cellphone, smart watch, or other electronic device to respond to an imminent threat to the health or safety of an individual, to respond to a school-wide emergency, to use the SafeUt Crisis Line, for a student's IEP or 504 accommodation, or to address a medical necessity with expressed permission.
 - iii. Students may use a cellphone, smart watch, or other electronic device outside of regular school hours, during passing periods, and during lunch.
 - c. Parents who need to contact their student during class time may call the front office, and the front office will notify the student and facilitate communication.
 - d. Violations:
 - i. Consequences of misuse or mistreatment of Maeser-owned electronic devices may result in confiscation of Maeser-owned electronic devices or restriction of access on the Maeser's network.
 - ii. Consequences for unauthorized use of personal electronic devices.
 - 1. 1st violation: Confiscation of device until the end of the class period.
 - 2. 2nd violation: Device turned in to Administration, and it will be returned at the end of the school day. Teachers shall identify the student and number of classroom violations of policy to Administration who will make a log entry in PowerSchool.
 - 3. 3rd violation: Administration will return the device to a parent/guardian.
 - 4. 4th violation: Loss of privately-owned electronic device privileges on campus.
 - a. If a student who has lost the privilege to possess a privately-owned electronic device on campus continues to bring it to campus, that student will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school.
 - iii. Confiscated Devices
 - 1. School employees may confiscate a privately-owned electronic device.

2. School employees may not search or review material or numbers stored on student electronic devices except under compelling circumstances.
 - a. School employees may search an electronic device if the device is found by the employee for the limited purpose of determining the device's owner.
 - b. Maeser Administration may search a privately-owned electronic device in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline Policy.
3. Maeser will do its best to guard and protect confiscated electronic devices, but are not responsible for loss, damage, or theft.
4. Maeser will make a good faith effort to notify parent(s) or designated individuals that the confiscated, privately-owned electronic device is in Maeser's possession. Time and resources permitting, Maeser will hold onto the electronic device until the parent(s) or designated individuals are able to pick up the electronic device. However, Maeser will only hold onto the electronic device for a reasonable amount of time, typically until the end of the school year. Prior to disposing of electronic devices that have not been picked up, Maeser will make reasonable attempts to return devices. Maeser may also, at its own discretion, make reasonable attempts to clear them of personal data before disposing of electronic devices that have not been picked up.
- e. Students are personally responsible for devices assigned or provided to them by Maeser, both for loss or damage of electronic devices and use of electronic devices consistent with Maeser's directives.
 - i. Students who misuse, mistreat, or otherwise abuse electronic devices assigned or provided to them by Maeser may have their access to electronic devices and the network restricted or revoked.
 1. Students who break or otherwise render inoperative an electronic device that has been assigned to them by Maeser may be held financially liable for the replacement cost of the device.
- f. Misuse of Maeser-owned electronic devices at any time, including outside of school hours, may result in revocation of the ability to use Maeser-owned electronic devices, as well as additional discipline in accordance with the Maeser Discipline Policy.
- g. Misuse of privately-owned electronic devices during school hours or during a school-sponsored activity may result in confiscation of the device and/or additional disciplinary action in accordance with the Maeser Discipline Policy.
 - i. Teachers may confiscate privately-owned electronic devices if a student is using it in violation of classroom or school rules or policies. See Maeser Discipline Policy for additional information.
- h. Should a student's parent or guardian wish to establish more restrictive boundaries for that student's use of Maeser's electronic resources, they must

submit a written request to Maeser Administration setting forth their proposed criteria. Maeser will make reasonable efforts to comply with such requests, subject to its own resource constraints and the educational mission of the school.

6. Employees
 - a. Employees who use electronic devices to access inappropriate material on Maeser-owned electronic devices, or privately-owned electronic devices on school property, at school-sponsored events or using school connectivity may have criminal, employment or student disciplinary consequences, and if appropriate, may be reported to law enforcement.
 - b. Employees are responsible for Maeser-issued electronic devices at all times and misuse of an electronic device may have employment consequences, regardless of the user.
 - c. Employees have responsibilities in educating students on appropriate online activities (as required by Utah Code Ann. § 53G-7-1202), and in supervising such activities.
7. Reporting misuse
 - a. Students may report misuse of electronic devices to a teacher, counselor, or school administrator, who may then conduct an investigation.
 - b. Teachers may report misuse of electronic devices to their department chair or a member of the Administration.
8. The school computer and network resources are provided for students to conduct research, complete assignments, and communicate with others in connection with their Maeser-related academic and extracurricular activities. Access to these resources and services is only available with the permission of a parent or guardian. Network access will only be granted to a student if the student and their parent/guardian complete, sign, and return a copy of the Network Access Permission form. **Note: students that do not have permission to access network resources may not be able to participate in some classes and will need alternate assignments requested from the teacher.**
9. Training
 - a. In accordance with state law, Maeser will provide school-wide or in-classroom training to employees and students that covers:
 - i. the contents of the school's policy;
 - ii. the importance of digital citizenship;
 - iii. Maeser's discipline policies relating to the violation of this policy;
 - iv. the benefits of connecting to the internet and utilizing the school's internet filters.

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