

CODE: IJNDB

STUDENT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE

The Kittery School Department's computers, network and Internet access are provided to support the educational mission of the schools. This policy and the accompanying rules also apply to laptops issued directly to students, whether in use at school or off school premises. Students are allowed to use privately-owned computers at school with prior authorization, provided that they comply with this policy and the accompanying rules.

Compliance with the school unit's policies and rules concerning computer use is mandatory. Students who violate these policies and rules may, after being given an opportunity to respond to an alleged violation, have their computer privileges limited, suspended or revoked. The building administrator shall have the final authority to decide whether a student's computer privileges will be altered, based on the circumstances of the particular case. Such violations may also result in disciplinary action, referral to law enforcement and/or legal action.

Kittery School Department computers remain under the control, custody and supervision of the school unit at all times. The Kittery School Department may monitor all computer and Internet activity by students. Students have no expectation of privacy in their use of school computers, whether they are used on or off school property.

The Kittery School Department utilizes filtering technology designed to block materials that are obscene or harmful to minors, and child pornography. The Kittery School Department takes precautions to supervise student use of the Internet and electronic communications, and to prevent the unlawful disclosure, use or dissemination of personally identifiable information about students. The Kittery School Department educates students about safety on the Internet, appropriate online behavior and cyberbullying awareness and response, but parents should be aware that the Kittery School Department could not reasonably prevent all instances of inappropriate computer use by students that may violate School Committee policies and rules, including access to objectionable materials and communications.

The Superintendent or his/her designee is responsible for implementing this policy and the accompanying rules. Additional administrative procedures or school rules governing the day-to-day management and operations of the school unit's computer system may be implemented by the Superintendent, consistent with School Committee policies and rules.

Students and parents shall be informed of this policy and the accompanying rules through handbooks, the school web site and/or other means selected by the Superintendent.

Cross Reference: IJNDB-R – Student Computer and Internet Use Rules
GCSA – Employee Computer and Internet Use
EGAD – Copyright Compliance

Legal Reference: 47 USC § 254(h)(5) (Children’s Internet Protection Act)
P.L. No. 110-385 (Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act)

Adopted: March 4, 1997

Revised: October 19, 2004; February 19, 2013