

Boston Public Schools Parent & Student Agreement

Media Appearances

I give permission for Boston Public Schools to record, film, photograph, interview and/or publicly exhibit, distribute, or publish in print and in electronic media my son/daughter's name, appearance, spoken words and works during the 2010–2011 school year, whether undertaken by school staff, students, or anyone outside the school, including the media. I agree that Boston Public Schools may use, or allow others to use, those works without limitation or compensation. I release my child's school and Boston Public Schools staff from any claims arising out of my child's appearance or participation in these works.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature (age 18 or over) _____ Date _____

Acceptable Use Policy for Networks, Including the Internet

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy on page 45 of this *Guide to the Boston Public Schools* and have discussed it with my child. I understand that computer access is provided in Boston Public Schools for educational purposes in keeping with the academic goals of BPS, and that student use for any other purpose is inappropriate. I recognize that it is impossible for BPS to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the school responsible for materials acquired on the school network. I understand that children's computer activities at home should be supervised as they can affect the academic environment at school. I hereby give permission for my child to use computer resources at Boston Public Schools.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

STUDENTS MUST SIGN THE STATEMENT BELOW REGARDING INTERNET USE:

As a Boston Public School student, I understand that the use of the school network and e-mail is a privilege, not a right. I understand that my school network and e-mail accounts are owned by the BPS and are not private. BPS has the right to access my information at any time. I understand that BPS administrators will decide what conduct is inappropriate use if such conduct is not specified in this agreement. I will use computers in a manner that complies with laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I understand that I am to notify an adult immediately if I encounter material that violates appropriate use.

I understand and will abide by the Acceptable Use Policy on page 45 of this *Guide to the Boston Public Schools*. I will use BPS technology resources productively and responsibly for school-related purposes. I will not use any technology resource in such a way that would disrupt the activities of other users. I understand that consequences of my actions could include possible loss of computer privileges and/or school disciplinary action as stated in the Code of Conduct and/or prosecution under state and federal law.

Student Signature (age 5 and older) _____ Date _____

Release of Student Information

The Boston Public Schools releases the following information without parent consent: student's name, date of birth, neighborhood of residence, class or grade, dates of attendance, participation in officially recognized activities, membership on athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards, and post-high school plans. If you do not want this information released without your consent, check the box below and sign:

DO NOT release the information listed above without my consent.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature (age 18 or older) _____ Date _____

PLEASE REMOVE THIS SECTION FROM THE BOOK, SIGN IT, AND RETURN IT TO THE SCHOOL.

BPS Policies: Using the Internet in School

Boston Public Schools (BPS) provides a wide array of technology resources for student use. These technology resources are to be used only for educational purposes. The BPS Acceptable Use Policy outlines appropriate use and prohibited activities when using all technology resources and electronic devices as defined by school administrators. Every student is expected to follow all of the rules and conditions listed, as well as those given verbally by BPS teachers and administrators, and to demonstrate good citizenship and ethical behavior at all times.

The Acceptable Use Policy was developed with input from BPS administrators, teachers, students, parents, school police and the BPS legal advisor.



Acceptable Use Policy For Networks, Including The Internet: Student Responsible Use

- 1. I am responsible for my computer account and e-mail account.** I understand that passwords are private and that I should not share my password with anyone. I understand that I am responsible for all activities done through my account. I will not allow others to use my account name and password, or try to use that of others. I understand that I will be in violation of the law if I attempt to electronically capture another person's password. I understand that it is important to log off the computer at the end of every session so another user cannot use my password.
- 2. I am responsible for my language.** I will use appropriate language in my e-mail messages, online postings, and other digital communications. I will not use profanity, vulgarities or any other inappropriate language as determined by school administrators
- 3. I am responsible for how I treat other people.** I will use e-mail and other means of communications (e.g. blogs, wikis, chat, instant-messaging, discussion boards, etc.) responsibly. I will not send or post hate or harassing mail, make discriminatory or derogatory remarks about others, or engage in bullying, harassment, or other antisocial behaviors while in school or out of school.
- 4. I am responsible for my use of the Boston Public Schools network.** I will use BPS computer resources responsibly. I will not search, retrieve, save, circulate or display hate-based, offensive or sexually explicit material. I will not search, retrieve, save or circulate images or information about weapons using any BPS computer resources unless authorized by school administrator/teacher as part of a school assignment.
- 5. I am responsible for my conduct on all online sites.** I understand that what I do on social networking websites should not negatively impact the school learning environment and/or my fellow students, teachers and administrators.
- 6. I am responsible for being honest while I am online.** I understand that masquerading, spoofing, or pretending to be someone else is forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, sending out e-mail, creating accounts, or posting messages or other online content (e.g. text, images, audio or video) in someone else's name.
- 7. I am responsible for protecting the security of the Boston Public Schools network.** I will not attempt to bypass security settings or internet filters, or interfere with the operation of the network by installing illegal software, including file sharing, shareware, or freeware, on school computers.
- 8. I am responsible for protecting school property.** I understand that vandalism is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to accessing, modifying, or destroying equipment, programs, files, or settings on any computer or technology resource. I understand that I need authorization from a school administrator/teacher to use personal electronic devices that I bring to school, including but not limited to memory storage devices (i.e. USB drives).
- 9. I am responsible for respecting other people's property online.** I will obey copyright laws. I will not plagiarize or use others' work without proper citation and permission. I will not illegally download materials protected by copyright, including but not limited to music and movies.
- 10. I am responsible for following school rules whenever I publish anything online.** I will follow all guidelines set forth by the BPS and/or my teachers when publishing schoolwork online (e.g. to a website, blog, wiki, discussion board, podcasting or video server). I understand that it is unsafe to post any personal information about myself, including but not limited to: my name, address, phone number or school. I will not post photos of students with their first and last names on any online site, including but not limited to websites, blogs, wikis, and discussions forums, without the permission of the parent/guardian or student (age 18 and older).

LEARN MORE ABOUT BPS INTERNET SAFETY

For more information for students and families about the Acceptable Use policy:

www.bpscybersafety.org

(see the Acceptable Use Policy section)