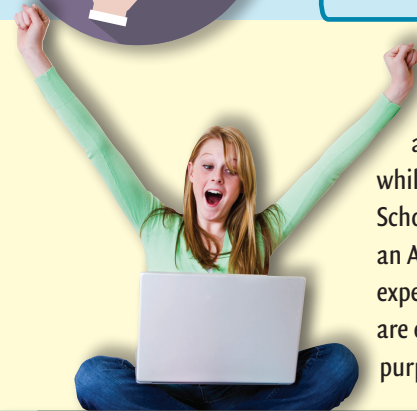


DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP SERIES

DIGITAL RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES



DIGITAL RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES are defined as having the right to use digital technologies while using it in a safe and appropriate manner. School districts have students and teachers sign an Acceptable Use Policy while outlines what the expectations are for technology users. Students are expected to use the technology for educational purposes – not for personal or social purposes.

Students are expected to cite their sources and report threats and issues of cyberbullying.

For more information about digital rights and responsibilities and a Children's Bill of Rights for the Internet (as well as helpful resources for parents and teachers), visit: <http://areyouadigitalcitizen.weebly.com/digital-rights-and-responsibilities.html>.

SCHOOLS AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT



One of the most difficult situations facing school administrators today is how to handle problems that begin with what students post on social media on their own personal devices outside of school. These postings can cause disruptions at school. The most common example is how bullying on social media can lead to all kinds of problems at school.

- > In *Tinker v. Des Moines School District* (1965), the Supreme Court of the United States made it clear that while students clearly have the right to freedom of expression at school, their words and actions cannot interfere with the learning atmosphere at school.
- > Since 1965, the courts have supported school district actions that punish obscenity in a student council election speech and that promote drug use. Bullying, making fun of teachers and calling for violence at school all have been found to be disruptive to learning. The courts also support the school's right to make rules about Internet usage at school.

MAGNA CARTA FOR THE DIGITAL AGE



To celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, the British Library asked young people to create a new Magna Carta for the digital age. More than 3,000 responded and the world at large was invited to vote on their ideas. On Magna Carta Day, June 15, the Library released the results of more than 30,000 votes. Here are some of the top votes. The Web we want:

1. will not let companies pay to control it, and not let governments restrict our right to information.
2. will allow freedom of speech.
3. will be free from government censors in all countries.
4. will be available for all those who wish to use it.
5. will allow equal access to knowledge, information and current news worldwide.
6. will not sell our personal information and preferences for money and will make it clearer if the company/Website intends to do so.

Learn more and cast your own vote at: <http://www.bl.uk/my-digital-rights/vote-now>.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP



The Bill of Rights, 10 amendments added to the U.S. Constitution, became part of our country's laws in 1791. The Founders used the Bill of Rights to be more specific about the rights that belong to citizens of our country. Imagine if the Founders had known technology would become so important in our lives more than 224 years later, they might have included these:

You have the **RIGHT** to be heard.

You have the **RIGHT** to share.

You have the **RIGHT** to connect with others.

You have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to give credit.

You have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to be kind to others.

You have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to protect your own and others' privacy.

You have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to report inappropriate activity online.

Talk About It

Do you know the rules that are listed in your school's Acceptable Use Policy for technology? What is the policy for cell phones, tablets, lap tops, e-readers and iPods? What rules

does your family have at home for using technology? Do you agree or disagree with employers who use social networking to learn more about their employees? Why?

In the News

Digital rights and responsibilities are similar to The Bill of Rights. In the newspaper, find articles, letters, and editorials about issues that are

covered by the Bill of Rights (for example, free speech). For each example, identify the Bill of Rights amendment involved.



Try It

With your family, create an Acceptable Use Policy for technology in your home. What are your rights and your responsibilities?

Type the policy, have everyone sign it, and share it with your classmates before posting it in your house.

Academic Standards: Making text-to-life connections. Writing for a specific purpose and audience. Identifying digital rights and responsibilities.