SECTION 5:

TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRONICS

Cell phones, tablets, and other electronic items are often used for instructional practices. We are guiding our learners in appropriate use of technology, helping them to make appropriate choices concerning these items. We realize that many parents give their children cell phones for safety and convenience. We ask that learners limit use of the phones during the school day to academic purposes only. Families may contact their child in an emergency situation by calling the school office and learners may use cell phones or school phones to contact families in an emergency. Learners should respect their facilitator's requests regarding appropriate time to use technology. Should technology disrupt the learning environment or if used inappropriately, parent/guardian will be notified and cell phones or other devices will be stored in a safe place and returned to the learner at the end of the school day. Continuous misuse of technology will result in consequences.

INTERNET USAGE

iLEAD Agua Dulce Charter School's computers have access to the Internet. The school works diligently to protect our learners from inappropriate content. The iLEAD Agua Dulce staff work closely in training our learners as to the appropriate use of the Internet. Before using the Internet, parents and learners should read the following "Network Use Guidelines." All parents and learners must also sign a Student & Parent/Guardian Network Responsibility Contract.

NETWORK USE GUIDELINES

Please read the following carefully. This will give you information about the privileges and responsibilities of using the Internet as part of your educational experience. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual people.

Learners will have access to:

1. Electronic mail (e-mail) communication with people all over the world.
2. Information and news from a variety of sources and research institutions.
3. Public domain and shareware software of all types.
4. Discussion groups on a wide variety of topics.
5. Many university libraries, the Library of Congress, and more!
6. Educational Software

Giving our learners the skills to thrive in the 21st Century means giving them access to technology. With computers as part of every classroom curriculum, iLEAD Agua Dulce Charter School uses very strong guidelines for Web usage and Internet security. We comply with the level of security that the Children's Internet Protection Act requires. While we have filters at the network level for inappropriate Websites, there are still instances when those Websites can come through. Please be assured that iLEAD Agua Dulce remains committed to restricting the use of such Websites.

Our school is taking reasonable precautions to restrict access to “harmful matter” and to materials that do not support approved educational objectives. However, on a public network it is impossible to control all materials. “Harmful matter” means matter that, taken as a whole by the average person applying contemporary statewide standards, describes in a patently offensive way material which lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors (Penal Code, section 3 13).

The facilitators/staff will choose resources on the Internet that are appropriate for classroom instruction and/or research for the needs, maturity, and ability of their learners. iLEAD Agua Dulce Charter School takes no responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information from Internet sources. Use of any information obtained through the Internet is at the user’s risk.

The purpose of schools having access to the Internet is to support research and education in and among academic institutions by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of the internet must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of iLEAD Agua Dulce Charter School.

Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state law is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, the distribution of:

1. Any information which violates or infringes upon the rights of any other person.
2. Any defamatory, inappropriate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or illegal material.
3. Advertisements, solicitations, commercial ventures, or political lobbying.
4. Any information which encourages the use of controlled substances or the use of the system for the purpose of inciting crime.
5. Any material which violates copyright laws.
6. Any vandalism, unauthorized access, “hacking,” or tampering with hardware or software, including introducing “viruses” or pirated software, is strictly prohibited.
7. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of these privileges.

NETIQUETTE (Network Etiquette)

The use of the Internet requires that you abide by accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Be polite. Do not send abusive messages to anyone.
2. Use appropriate language. In all messages, do not swear or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language. Anything pertaining to illegal activities is strictly forbidden.
3. Maintain privacy. Do not reveal the personal address or phone numbers of yourself or other persons. Before publishing a learner’s picture, first name, or work on the Internet, the school must have on file a parent release authorizing publication.

4. Respect copyrights. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be the property of the author and should not be reused without their permission.
5. Do not disrupt the network. Do not use the network in a way that would disrupt the use of the network by others.
6. Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem, you must notify nicole.higdon@ileadaguadulce.org.
7. Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

SUPERVISION AND MONITORING

School and network administrators and their authorized employees monitor the use of information technology resources to help ensure that uses are secure and in conformity with this policy. Administrators reserve the right to examine, use, and disclose any data found on the school's information networks in order to further the health, safety, discipline or security of any learner or other person, or to protect property. They may also use this information in disciplinary actions, and will furnish evidence of crime to law enforcement.

CYBERBULLYING

iLEAD Schools provides learners with instruction, in the classroom or other educational settings, that promotes communication, social skills, and assertiveness skills and educates learners about appropriate online behavior and strategies to prevent and respond to bullying and cyberbullying. School staff shall receive related professional development, including information about early warning signs of harassing/intimidating behaviors and effective prevention and intervention strategies. Parents/guardians, learners, and community members also may be provided with similar information.

Any learner who engages in cyberbullying on school premises, or off campus in a manner that causes or is likely to cause a substantial disruption of a school activity or school attendance, shall be subject to discipline in accordance with school policy. If the learner is using a social networking site or service that has terms of use that prohibit posting of harmful material, the School Director or designee may also file a complaint with the Internet site or service to have the material removed.