

## TECHNOLOGY USE POLICY

Bethany Lutheran School  
Long Beach, CA

### PREAMBLE:

The use of computers during Bethany's school day is an integral part of a student's education. However, the use of computers is also a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges and, potentially, other disciplinary action. Students will be held responsible for their actions and activity while using technology at Bethany.

### SCHOOL COMPUTER GUIDELINES:

1. Technology should be used in a way that will treat other people in a God-pleasing manner. Therefore, the sending of harassing or degrading messages, using files and e-mail to bear false witness or spread rumors about someone, or posting anonymous messages or personal communications without the original author's consent is prohibited. Any use of the computer that demeans another person, whether they be other students, teachers, staff, or parents, in a manner that is contrary to God's Word, will not be tolerated.
2. Do not interfere with the work of another student or a teacher. Students may not degrade or disrupt the normal function of hardware or software so that the performance of these items is damaged. Neither may students use technology in such a way that it is disruptive or harmful to the teacher, students, and classroom environment. Similarly, any student who uses a computer in a manner that is outside the parameters established by the teacher is subject to disciplinary action.
3. The privacy of other people, whether fellow students or teachers, is to be respected. Any invasion of the privacy of another person is a violation of the school technology use policy. Students may not intentionally access the messages, files, or work of another student or teacher, nor alter any of these in any way.
4. Students using technology are expected to uphold the 7th commandment. It is illegal to violate copyright laws. Copying of program files (as opposed to personal word processing files, or other student work) is prohibited except with the approval of the homeroom teacher and their personal supervision.
5. Students are to use computers only as instructed by their teacher. Students may not attempt to gain any unauthorized access to resources, programs, or on-line sites. Similarly, students are expected to maintain individual computer settings. These settings (such as the background, icons, screen savers, etc.) may not be altered without permission of the instructor.

6. Students may not use the technology at Bethany for their own financial or commercial gain.

7. Students are expected to adhere to all of the following guidelines concerning Internet use:

Personal information of any kind about themselves or another person (students, teachers, parents, etc...) may not be transmitted. This includes home telephone numbers and addresses as well as information regarding the location of any student at any given time.

Students may not use any Internet feature, including the World Wide Web or e-mail without the direct personal supervision of the classroom teacher, teacher's aide, or authorized parent volunteer. Direct personal supervision means that the teacher (or other qualified individual) is present in the classroom or computer lab and is actively monitoring the work of the student.

Students are expected to maintain a Christ-like demeanor at all times. Therefore, no text, image, movie, or sound that contains obscene material or language that offends or degrades others will be allowed.

Possible consequences for violations of the school technology use policy include:

- a. withholding privileges
- b. detention
- c. suspension
- d. expulsion

Computer technology is a gift from God to his people. Like any other gift, it is up to us to use the gift wisely to glorify God and advance His Kingdom. Bethany Lutheran School acknowledges the blessings the Lord has bestowed on his church through technology, and we are committed to empowering our students to use this gift in a way that is in keeping with our Christian faith. We pray that God will bless our efforts to enhance our students' educational experience through technology.