

# Computer Acceptable Use: Classroom Policy

The laptop computers have profoundly changed the way we teach our classes. They can also be a nuisance and a distraction. You will make extensive, daily use of the computers both inside and out of class. However, we have specific expectations for HOW you will use them. Please read the following very closely.

- You are expected to bring your computers to class appropriately charged. Your batteries are designed to last four to six hours. This means that you should only have to charge your computers in fourth or fifth block and you should not have to do this often. Additionally, the Tech Center will not lend you a charger, so come prepared.
- You should use your computer only for purposes related to the class and the particular activity. Absolutely no non-class related web browsing, downloading, Instant Messaging, emailing or other computer use should take place. If it's not necessary for the particular lesson, don't do it.
- COMPUTER GAMES and MOVIE DVDs ARE GENERALLY NOT ALLOWED. Playing a game deemed to be "violent" or "offensive" will result in the immediate confiscation of your computer. Additionally, all language and images on your computer should be appropriate. The teacher has the last word on this issue.
- Be sure you understand what it means to plagiarize online sources of information. We also consider the large-scale transfer of class notes and work to be cheating. If you are in doubt as to the ethics of what you plan to do, ask first. Realize that cheating can result in academic review.
- Please realize that even the appearance of doing what you are not supposed to be doing can result in disciplinary action. This means that "escaping" out of an application as a teacher approaches or constantly using the arrow keys on your keyboard can result in punishment.
- As an MPA student, you are expected to follow the MPA respect and ethics policies. This includes, but is not limited to, any websites, blogs, emails, digital images, instant messaging that you publish on the Internet. Free speech guidelines do not protect you against slander, libel or illegal activity.

Consequences for violating these rules include, but are not limited to, the following: verbal warning, forfeiture of classroom computer privileges, confiscation of computer, detention, parental conferences, suspension or expulsion.

I agree to the above rules and guidelines as a condition of computer use at Mounds Park Academy. I understand the expectations and consequences, and I will abide by them.

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(Student signature)

**Students who do not sign this form will lose their computer privileges.**