

NETWORK AND INTERNET USE POLICY

In this regard, the School District has made available to students and staff, electronic mail and the Internet. To gain access to E-mail and the Internet, all students under the age of eighteen (18) must obtain parental permission and sign and return a parental permission form to the School District (IJNDA-E). Students eighteen (18) and over may sign their own forms. Access to E-mail and the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with Internet users throughout the world. Families should be warned that some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. While it is possible for students to access inappropriate material and otherwise misuse the system, it is the intent of the School District that internet access should only be used to further the educational goals and objectives set out for each student. It is the policy of this School District to try to educate our students using modern technology, which the students will need to be familiar with in order to be successful in their subsequent careers. However, in order to utilize this modern technology, it will ultimately be the responsibility of parents and guardians of minors to set and convey standards to their children, which they will follow while utilizing this technology. To that end, the School District will support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

DISTRICT INTERNET AND E-MAIL RULES

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in the classroom or a school hallway. Communicating on the network is often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parental permission is required. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility. Individual users of the District computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications over those networks. It is presumed that users will comply with District standards and will honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, the District is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, or controlling the communications of individuals using the network.

With proper signed permission forms, a student may use the district network and the Internet to:

1. Research assigned classroom projects
2. Send electronic mail (email) to other users

Network storage areas are not to be considered private or personal property of students. They are learning areas subject to review by administrators and teaching staff. Any files and communications may be reviewed by the administration or staff to maintain system integrity and to ensure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on District servers will be private.

The district reserves the right to limit disk storage space on the network. A system user must have permission of the network administrator before subscribing to a service using disc storage space on the network. Users will not be allowed to load software on the network. Unauthorized software will be deleted without notice.

While school teachers of younger students will generally guide them toward appropriate materials, older students and students utilizing the system outside of regular school hours will need to be directed by families in the same manner they direct their children's use of television, telephones, movies, radio, and other potentially offensive media.

The following conduct and utilization of the Internet are **NOT** permitted:

1. sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures;
2. using abusive, objectionable or obscene language;
3. searching for, down loading, or otherwise reviewing any type of sexually explicit, obscene material or other information for any non-instructional or non-educational purpose;
4. harassing, insulting or attacking others;
5. damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks;
6. violating copyright laws or otherwise using the network for any illegal purpose;
7. user shall not use or attempt to discover another user's password, use or let others use another person's name, address, passwords, or files for any reason, except as may be necessary for legitimate communication purposes and with permission of the other person;
8. trespassing in another's folders, work or files; or deleting any work that is not their own;
9. employing the network for commercial purposes;
10. otherwise accessing game sites, video streaming, music files, forums or "chat rooms" devoid of educational purpose and without instructor consent;

11. tampering with computers, networks, printers, or other associated equipment or software without the express permission of supervising staff;
12. writing, producing, generating, copying, propagating or attempting to introduce any computer code designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system or software.
13. Utilizing or attempting to utilize any form of proxy server outside of the school district.

PENALTY

Violations will result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action. The first offense will generally result in a warning and loss of computer privileges/Internet access until a parent conference, and further loss of privilege for such time as is determined by the administration. A second offense or a first offense of a flagrant nature, such as using the system for illegal behavior or intentionally damaging school district hardware or software, may result in removal from a class, termination of computer/network privileges, or recommendations for suspension and/or expulsion.

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