

STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1. Program Development

In order to match electronic resources as closely as possible to the approved district curriculum, district personnel will review and evaluate resources in order to offer "home pages" and menus of materials that are instructionally sound. In this manner, staff will provide developmentally appropriate guidance to students as they make use of telecommunications and electronic information resources to conduct research and other studies related to the district curriculum. All students will be informed by staff of their rights and responsibilities as users of the district network prior to gaining access to that network, either as an individual user or as a member of a class or group.

As much as possible, access to district information resources will be designed in ways that point students to the resources, which have been reviewed and evaluated prior to use. While students may be able to move beyond those resources to other sites, which have not been evaluated by staff, they shall be provided with guidelines and lists of resources particularly suited to the learning objectives. Students may pursue electronic research independent of staff supervision only if they have been granted parental permission and have submitted all required forms. Permission is not transferable and may not be shared.

2. Internet Guidelines

Students are responsible for appropriate actions and behavior on school computers and networks. Communications on the network are considered public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. Alterations by students are not to be made to any program application or document folder without permission.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Independent access to network services is provided to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parent permission is required for minors. 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. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility.

Network administrators, school site administrators, and teachers may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly.

The following activities are not permitted:

Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures

Using obscene language

Harassing, insulting, bullying, or attacking others

Damage materials, outside systems, or computer networks

Violating copyright laws

Using others' passwords

Deleting, Trespassing, or Altering folders, work, or files

Employing the network for commercial purposes

Any action that violates existing Board Policy or Public Law

3. Sanctions

Violations may result in loss of access. Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate language or behavior. When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

4. User Agreement/Parental Permission

The **Student Agreement for Use of Telecommunications** form shall be completed, signed by student and parent, and placed on file with the school prior to student's access to the district computer network.