

UNITED SCHOOL DISTRICT #304 INTERNET GUIDELINES

Many students in District #304 have, or will soon have access to the Internet. The Internet, a global electronic information infrastructure, is a network of networks used by educators, businesses, the government, the military, and organizations. In schools and libraries, the Internet can be used to educate, to inform, and to entertain. As a learning resource, the Internet is similar to books, magazines video, CD-ROM, and other information sources.

Students in District #304 use the Internet to participate in distance learning activities, to ask questions of and consult with experts, to communicate with other students and individuals, and to locate material to meet their educational and personal information needs. All educators have a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the skills needed to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use information to meet their educational goals.

Making Internet access available to students carries with it the potential that some students might encounter information that some have identified as controversial and of potential harm to students. Because information on the Internet appears, disappears, and changes, it is not possible to predict or control what students may locate. While it is possible to select some resources which will be more easily available to students, school officials cannot promise to control the Internet environment for students. Educators will take an active role in ensuring that students and their parents are aware of the individual student's responsibility to use Internet resources in an ethical and educational manner. Our focus is less in controlling the environment, but more in providing individual users with the understanding and skills needed to use the Internet in ways appropriate to their individual educational needs. Concerns about Internet information will be handled the same way that concerns about other educational resources are now handled, and policies now dealing with other educational resources also pertain to Internet resources.

The District has guidelines for student use of Internet accounts. To protect the due process right of students, these guidelines define appropriate educational and ethical uses of the Internet, identify individual student responsibilities, and outline procedures for enforcing behavior on the Internet and handling violations. Students, staff, and parents are advised that some sites may contain inappropriate material. School administrators and staff do not condone the use of such materials and do not permit usage of such materials in the school environment. Students who knowingly bring such materials into the school environment, regardless of format, will be dealt with according to the discipline policies of the individual school building. The building administrators, at their sole discretion, reserve the right to terminate immediately the account of any student who misuses the account.

The use of Internet is a privilege, not a right, any inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. Students will be taught appropriate use of E-mail and other general use of the Internet. The administrators will deem what is inappropriate and their decision is final.

Authorization for Internet Access

All use of the Internet shall be consistent with the District's goal of promoting education excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The Authorization does not attempt to state all required or proscribed behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. The failure of any user to follow the terms of the Authorization for Internet Access will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action. The signature(s) at the end of this document is legally binding and indicates the party who signed has read the terms and conditions carefully and understands their significance.

Terms and conditions:

Acceptable Use - Access to the District's internet must be for the purpose of education or research and must be consistent with the educational objectives of the district.

Privileges - The use of the District's internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The Technology Director, in conjunction with the appropriate building administrator, will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated this Authorization and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time; his or her decision is final.

Unacceptable Use - You are responsible for your actions and activities involving the network. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

- Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts or transmitting any material in violation of any U.S. or state regulation
- Downloading of software without authorization by the supervisor (teacher) regardless of whether it is copyrighted or virus free
- Using the network for private financial or commercial gain
- Wastefully using resources, such as file space
- Gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities
- Invading the privacy of individuals
- Using another user's account or password
- Posting material authored or created by another without his/her consent
- Posting anonymous messages
- Using the network for commercial or private advertising
- Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material
- Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked

Network Etiquette - You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include but are not limited to the following:

- Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others
- Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language
- Do not reveal your full name, personal address or telephone number nor those of students or colleagues. (Use only your first name)
- Recognize that electronic mail (e-mail) is not private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities
- Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users
- Consider all communications and information accessible via the network to be private property

No Warranties - The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruption caused by its negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its service.

Indemnification - The user agrees to indemnify the School District for any losses, cost, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any breach of the Authorization.

Security - Network security is a high priority. If you can identify a security problem on the Internet, you must notify the system administrator or building principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep your account and password confidential. Do not use another individual's account. Attempts to log-on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the network.

Vandalism - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action.

Telephone Charges - The District assumes no responsibility for an unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

STUDENT INTERNET ACCESS CONTRACT

Please complete one form/student

Student Agreement:

I understand that when I am using the Internet or any other telecommunication environment, I must adhere to all rules of courtesy, etiquette and laws regarding access and copying information as prescribed by federal, state, or local law, LincON, Edu-Net, and the United School District #304. I understand that any violation of procedures may result in the loss of technology privileges for a length of time which may be the remainder of the school year.

Student Name (please print)

Student Signature

Date

If the applicant is under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must also read and sign this agreement

Parent or Guardian Agreement: (We ask that you review the United C.U.S.D #304's Internet Guidelines/Acceptable Use Policy with your child and sign the consent form below. If you have any questions about the network curriculum activities, please contact the building technology coordinator.)

As a parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy of the United School District #304. I hereby give my permission for my child to use the Internet through classroom curriculum projects.

Parent Name (please print)

Parent Signature

Date

Use of pictures and names on website

Permission for my student's picture to appear on the United CUSD website without name.

YES

NO

or

Permission for my student's picture and first name/last initial to appear on the United CUSD website.

YES

NO