

INSTRUCTION

Access to Electronic Networks

Electronic networks, including the Internet, are a part of the District's instructional program in order to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The Superintendent or designee shall develop an implementation plan for this policy and appoint a system administrator.

The School District is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved or transmitted via the Internet. Furthermore, the District will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

Individual School Board members and administrative staff members shall be treated like staff members. "Electronic network" includes all information accessed by Internet sites, E-Mail, on-line services, and bulletin board systems.

Curriculum

The use of the District's electronic networks shall (1) be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the District as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students, and (2) comply with the selection criteria for instructional materials and library-resource center materials. Staff members may, consistent with the Superintendent's implementation plan, use the Internet throughout the curriculum.

The District's electronic network is part of the curriculum and is not a public forum for general use.

Acceptable Use

All use of the District's electronic network must be (1) in support of education and/or research, and be in furtherance of the School Board's stated goal or (2) for a legitimate school business purpose. Use is a privilege, not a right. Students and staff members have no expectation of privacy in any material that is stored, transmitted, or received via the District's electronic network or District computers. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using electronic networks. The District's Authorization for Electronic Network Access contains the appropriate

uses, ethics, and protocol. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account but not erased, may be monitored or read by school officials.

Internet Safety

Each District computer with Internet access shall have a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall enforce the use of such filtering devices. An administrator, supervisor, or other authorized person may disable the filtering device for bona fide research or other lawful purpose, provided the person receives prior permission from the Superintendent or system administrator. The Superintendent or designee shall include measures in this policy's implementation plan to address the following:

1. Ensure staff supervision of student access to online electronic networks.
2. Restrict student access to inappropriate matter as well as restricting access to harmful materials.
3. Ensure student and staff privacy, safety and security when using electronic communication;
4. Restrict unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities; and;
5. Restrict unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information, such as, names and addresses.

Authorization for Electronic Network Access

Each staff member must sign the District's Authorization for Electronic Network Access as a condition for using the District's electronic network. Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the Authorization before being granted supervised use.

All users of the District's computers to access the Internet access shall maintain the confidentiality of student records. Reasonable measures to protect against unreasonable access shall be taken before confidential student information is loaded into the network.

The failure of any student or staff member to follow the terms of the Authorization for Electronic Network Access, or this policy, will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

LEGAL REF.: No Child Left Behind Act, 20 U.S.C. §6777
Children’s Internet Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. §254(h) and (l).
Enhancing Education Through Technology Act, 20 U.S.C. §6751 et seq.
750 ILCS 135/0.01.

CROSS REF.: 5.100 (Staff Development Program), 5:170 (Copyright), 6.40 (Curriculum Development), 6.210 (Instructional Materials), 6.230 (Library Resource Center), 6.260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs), 7.130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7.190 (Student Discipline), 7.310 (Publications)

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