

## INSTRUCTION

### INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

#### Internet Use and Safety

When used appropriately, the Internet is an important resource for students and staff. It provides a connection to a variety of information sources, educational institutions, and users throughout the world; fosters the development of researchers and investigators; and encourages resource sharing, innovation, and communication. The District will control access to the Internet. This school district reserves the right to monitor all Internet activity including transmission and receipt of E-mail.

Internet access will be provided to students in accordance with the terms of this policy. Internet access from school computers is reserved solely for educational purposes, including use by the West Genesee Adult Education program. Use by student clubs and organizations is limited to those times when the Internet access points are not in use for instruction, and shall be limited to educational programs, under the supervision of a teacher, and governed by this policy. Access to the Internet will be under the direction and supervision of the staff assigned to the particular Internet access area or computer.

The school district does not guarantee or imply that access to the Internet will always be available when students want access or that the software provided by the district will always work as intended. The school district is not responsible for failures in the operation or technical functioning of the Internet or the computers or software used to access the Internet.

In compliance with the Children's' Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the District will enforce the use of technology protection measures on all District computers with Internet access. These technology measures apply to preventing Internet access by both staff and students with regard to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or, with respect to the use of computers by minors, considered harmful to such students. Additionally, appropriate monitoring of online activities of minors will also be enforced to ensure the safety of students when accessing the Internet. No computer in the district, having Internet access, shall be operated by a student unless Internet access from the computer is subject to filtering software. Such filtering software shall be designed and it shall operate so that images which are obscene, pornographic or harmful to minors shall not be displayed. Such filtering software shall also be designed and it shall operate so that images or language which advocate or promote violence or hatred against particular individuals or groups of individuals or promotes the superiority of any racial, ethnic, or religious group over another shall not be displayed.

For purposes of this policy, the phrase harmful to minors means any text, picture, image, graphic image file or other visual depiction that, taken as a whole, and with respect to

minors, appeals to prurient interest in nudity or sex; depicts, describes or represents in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors an actual or simulated sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals and, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors. Further, the selection of appropriate teaching and instructional materials and activities will be monitored by administration to enhance the schools' programs; and to help ensure the safety of staff and students by educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking Web sites and in chat rooms and cyber bullying awareness and response prevention.

### Prohibited Conduct

No user shall while using a computer or other device connected to the Internet:

1. Access, transmit, or retransmit material which promotes violence or advocates destruction of property, including information concerning the manufacture of destructive devices, such as explosives, fireworks, smoke bombs, incendiary devices, or the like.
2. Access, transmit, or retransmit any information which is harmful to minors as that phrase is defined in this policy.
3. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.
4. Access, transmit, or retransmit material which advocates or promotes violence or hatred against particular individuals or groups of individuals or advocates or promotes the superiority of one racial, ethnic, or religious group over another.
5. Use or possess bootleg software. Bootleg software means any software, which has been downloaded or is otherwise in the user's possession without the appropriate registration of the software, including the payment of any fees owing to the owner of the software.
6. Transmit credit card or any other personal identification information, including home address, or telephone numbers from any school district computer (except when authorized by the Superintendent or designee).
7. Transmit E-mail through an anonymous remailer.
8. Use an instant messenger service or program, Internet Relay Chat or other forms of communication, or enter a chat room without the express permission of the staff member supervising the computer resource.

9. Commit or attempt to commit any willful act involving the use of the network which disrupts the operation of the network within the school district or any network connected to the Internet, including the use or attempted use or possession of computer viruses or so-called hacking or other unlawful activities online.
10. Disable or attempt to disable filtering software.

Regardless of the effectiveness of filtering software, all users are to be accountable for their conduct as it relates to the use of the Internet. Despite best efforts, a determined user may be able to gain access to inappropriate or unauthorized services on the Internet. Students may gain access to information and communications that they (or their parents) find offensive or controversial. Parents and guardians assume this risk and responsibility by consenting to allow their students to participate in the use of the Internet.

Opinions, advice, services, and all other information expressed online are those of the online authors and not of the school district. The Internet contains information pertaining to a variety of subjects. Not all of this information is accurate or reliable, particularly where the advice of medical, legal, accounting, or other professionals would be appropriate. Users are advised not to respond or rely upon advice found on the Internet. The school district is not responsible for such advice.

The District does not sanction any unauthorized use of the Internet. Users granted access to the Internet, through the District's resources, assume personal responsibility, both civil and criminal, for use of the Internet not authorized by Policy or Administrative Regulation. Any misuse of the Internet will be subject to disciplinary actions. In addition to those penalties set forth in the student discipline code, a violation of this Internet policy may also result in loss of Internet privileges.

Cross Reference    4510.3 INSTRUCTION  
INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY  
CODE OF CONDUCT

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