



Weymouth Township School District

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Weymouthtownshipschool.org



ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The Weymouth Township School District wishes to enable its students and staff to access curriculum based information resources. To this end, we permit our students to access the Internet, each user MUST sign this ACCEPTABLE USE Policy to acknowledge acceptance of this process. Students are also required to have their parent/guardian sign this form.

This interconnected worldwide web of computers can provide us with access to the most recent research and the most up-to-date statistics and opinions. However, the Internet can also provide students and staff with access to less than desirable information. While it is, in fact, impossible to completely protect users from accidental exposure to inappropriate materials, it is important that the district have an acceptable use policy to provide guidelines for the use of this vital informational resource by its students and staff.

We believe that the benefits from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed and disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children follow when using media and informational sources.

With this in mind, it is expected that students and staff will conduct themselves according to the social and cultural norms of the community. This includes the following points:

1. School use of the internet is under the direction/supervision of school staff, and students are obligated to use it appropriately. Everyone should conduct themselves responsibly, ethically, and politely while on line.
2. Inappropriate use of the Internet is prohibited. Use of obscene or illegal material, or indulging in activities in support of such activities is prohibited.
3. Users should not become involved in activities or discussions which are illegal or ill-suited and that might include opening themselves to access by people wishing to make inappropriate contacts with students or staff.
4. Network storage areas may be treated as school lockers. Network administrators and designated staff may review files and communications to maintain systems integrity and ensure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district server would always be private.
5. While freedom of speech and access to information is a reasonable expectation, during school the teachers and media specialist will guide students toward appropriate materials.
6. When in the course of instruction, a teacher recommends an internet site as a resource for home use, it is done so with the expectation that the student is always supervised by a parent or guardian while accessing the Internet.

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7. As outlined in Board of Education Policy and Procedures on Students' Rights and Responsibilities (#5516 & 5516.01), copies of which are available in the school office, the following are not permitted for all users:
 - a. Sending or displaying offensive pictures or messages
 - b. Using obscene language
 - c. Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
 - d. Violating copyright laws
 - e. Using other's passwords
 - f. Trespassing in others' folders, work, or files
 - g. Intentionally wasting limited resources
 - h. Employing the network for commercial purposes
 - i. Chat rooms or e-mail without teacher approval
8. To protect the network from any outside virus, students may not connect personal electronics or storage devices to school computers unless given permission by a faculty member.

Please Note: If a student is furnished with a school owned electronic device that may record or collect data, location, images, videos, or audio, the school district shall not use any of the capabilities in a manner that would violate the privacy rights of the student or any individual residing with the student.

Please complete below and return to the school office. No student will be permitted to access the school computer network until a completed/signed form is received.

USER AGREEMENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION FORM

As a user of the Weymouth Township Public School computer network, I hereby agree to comply with the above stated rules, communicating over the network in a reliable fashion while honoring all relevant laws and restrictions.

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE: _____ Homeroom: _____

As the parent/guardian of the student signing above, I grant permission for my son/daughter to access networked computer services such as the internet and electronic mail if applicable. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. I understand that some materials on the internet may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for guidance on internet use, setting and conveying standards for my son/daughter to follow when selecting, sharing, or exploring information and media. This permission is granted in perpetuity unless explicitly revoked.

NAME OF STUDENT (print): _____ Date: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE: _____