

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY FOR ON-LINE MEDIA USAGE

STATEMENT OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

We are pleased to announce that Internet access is now available to students and staff in the Pinconning Area School District (PASD). Our goal in providing this vast, diverse, and unique resource to both students and staff is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. Moreover, electronic information research skills are now fundamental to the preparation of informed citizens and future employees. This policy attempts to strike a balance among the educational resources of the Internet, the potentially illegal and offensive elements of the Internet, and the First and Fourth Amendment rights of students using the Internet.

Access to the Internet allows students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, bulletin boards and other resources while exchanging messages with people throughout the world. Unfortunately, some of the Internet sites may contain information that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, sexually-oriented or otherwise offensive to some people. In addition certain goods and services can be purchased through the Internet for which a student's parent or guardian would be liable. The PASD expects the faculty will blend thoughtful use of the Internet throughout the curriculum and will provide guidance and instruction to students in its use, so as to minimize non-educational uses of the Internet. This will be accomplished by pointing students to those Internet sites that have been evaluated prior to student use. While students will be able to move beyond these sites to those which have not been previewed by the staff, the students will have been provided with guidelines and lists of resources suited to the PASD educational mission, goals and objectives. This and enforcement of the attached "Rule of On-Line Network Etiquette" and "List of Prohibited Uses", will minimize inappropriate uses.

The smooth operation of the Internet relies upon the proper conduct of all end users that must adhere to certain guidelines to ensure efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. The PASD "Acceptable Use" policy incorporates these guidelines, and sets forth certain behavior which will result in the loss of use of Internet access privileges and possibly other disciplinary action at the building level. Law enforcement agencies may be involved when criminal conduct is suspected.

To remain eligible as users, students' use must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives of the PASD. Use of the Internet is a privilege and not a right. Students utilizing Internet access through the PASD must have the permission of the PASD and be supervised by its professional staff. While on-line, students are to exhibit the behavior that is expected of them in the classroom or other area of the school. Even though the district has filters in place to limit questionable content, the responsibility remains with the student to follow the guidelines in this document. Additionally the PASD also provides parents and guardians with the option of requesting for their minor children activities not requiring Internet use.

Users of school-based computers should not expect that files stored on school-based computers will be private. Electronic messages and files will be treated like school lockers - administrators and faculty retain the right to review messages and files to maintain system integrity and to insure that users are acting responsibly and abiding by this policy. Officials will also review messages and files when required to by law or to investigate complaints.

NOTICE: This policy and all its provisions are subordinate to local, state, and federal statutes. The District does not take responsibility for resources located or actions taken by the users that do not support the purposes of the School District. *It shall be the responsibility of all members of Pinconning Area Schools' staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act.*

DISCLAIMER CONCERNING USE OF ON-LINE SERVICES

The PASD, its employees and agents, make no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, concerning the on-line access it is providing. Furthermore, the PASD will not be responsible for:

1. Any damage suffered by a User, including but not limited to loss of data resulting from delays or interruptions in service, or computer "viruses";
2. The accuracy, nature, or quality of information stored on diskettes, hard drives or servers provided by the PASD;
3. The accuracy, nature or quality of information gathered through the on-line access provided by the PASD;
4. Personal property used to access computers, networks or the on-line access provided by the PASD;
5. Unauthorized financial obligation of a student, or his/her parent or guardian resulting from the on-line access provided by the PASD.

RULES OF ON-LINE NETWORK ETIQUETTE

1. Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
2. Use suitable language. Do not use profanity, vulgarities, sexually-oriented or other inappropriate language.
3. Do not reveal your personal address, phone number, or any other personal information including that of anyone else.
4. Remember that electronic mail messages are not guaranteed to be private. Those who operate the various on-line services have access to all messages and can report to the authorities messages which support illegal activities.
5. Do not use the network in a way that would disrupt the use of the network by others (large file downloading, music streaming, etc.).
6. Assume that all communications, programs and information which are accessible on-line are private property. As such, do not download any files without prior authorization from the creator of the file and the Technology Director.
7. Do not upload or download any software unless you are sure it is free from any computer virus.

LIST OF PROHIBITED USES OF THE ON-LINE SERVICES

The following uses of any on-line services are prohibited by the PASD. Moreover, this prohibited activity may be illegal and subject the offending user to criminal prosecution.

1. Do not access, upload, download or distribute pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit materials.
2. Do not transmit pornographic, obscene, abusive or sexually explicit materials or "stalk" or harass others
3. Do not use the network to violate local, state or federal statutes.
4. Do not vandalize, damage or disable or "hack" the files of others. Creation of a "virus" is considered vandalism. Installation of unapproved software including spyware toolbars etc. will also be considered vandalism.
5. Do not access the files, information or software of others.
6. Do not upload, download or otherwise use copyrighted material or other intellectual property of others without prior authorization. Copyright violations can result in fines or imprisonment.
7. Do not purchase or sell any goods or services through any online service without prior authorization of the Technology Director and/or Superintendent.
8. Do not connect or disconnect any device to a computer or the district network without prior approval of the Technology Director. In addition do not run any software from a connected device (i.e. USB flash drive) without prior approval of the Technology Director.
9. Do not use any means to circumvent the district content filter or virus protection software.

ON-LINE NETWORK USER'S AGREEMENT

I have read and understand the attached DISCLAIMER CONCERNING USE OF ON-LINE SERVICES and hereby release the PASD and its employees and agents from any and all claims of any kind arising from the use, misuse, or inability to use the on-line services provided by the PASD. I have read and understand the RULES OF ON-LINE NETWORK ETIQUETTE, and the LIST OF PROHIBITED USES OF ON-LINE SERVICES and agree to abide by them. I understand that any violation of the above may constitute a criminal offense. I further understand and agree that if I violate any of the above, my access privileges may be revoked, and that school discipline and/or legal action may be taken.

User name (please print): _____

User signature: _____

Date: _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the attached DISCLAIMER CONCERNING USE OF ON-LINE SERVICES and hereby release the PASD, and its employees and agents, from any and all claims of any kind arising from the use, misuse or inability to use, the on-line services provided by the PASD. I understand that the on-line services being offered are for educational purposes, but that students may have access to illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or offensive material. I have read and understand the attached RULES OF ON-LINE NETWORK ETIQUETTE and the LIST OF PROHIBITED USES OF ON-LINE SERVICES and acknowledge these as reasonable precautions to prevent student access to any illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or offensive material which may be available through the on-line services provided by the PASD. I will not hold the PASD responsible if this student gains access to any such materials or incurs any financial obligations which I have not authorized. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when this student uses any on-line services outside a school setting. I hereby give my permission to issue an account for this student, and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Parent or guardian's name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____