

Iroquois School District

Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy

(Adopted: 12/19/1995)

(Revised: 02/18/2003)

(Revised: 06/19/2007)

PURPOSE:

Technology resources are available via the Internet and local/wide area network at the Iroquois School District (ISD). We are pleased to provide access to our district and believe. These resources offer vast, diverse and unique opportunities to both students and staff. Our goal in providing this service to students and staff is to ensure educational excellence in the Iroquois School District by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Students and staff are responsible for appropriate behavior on computer networks. With access to these technological resources comes the availability of material that may not be considered of educational value in the context of the school setting. Despite the availability of filters and blocking software, students and staff may nevertheless gain access to electronic information that may not be reliable or appropriate. In such cases, general school rules for behavior and communications apply.

Students and staff are expected to use the Internet and ISD hardware as educational resources. ISD will block access to sites for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to inappropriate or objectionable sites, blogging or diary sites and sites that are not educationally valuable. ISD is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged or unavailable when using the network or for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. ISD will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

Because technology is constantly changing, situations may arise that are not covered in this policy. In that case, users must consult with the administration to determine whether or not these specific activities are appropriate.

GUIDELINES:

The following guidelines are used to help ensure appropriate use of technology resources, including the Internet, in the ISD. All ISD resources must be used appropriately. This Internet Acceptable Use Policy and Internet Safety Policy (ISP) addresses the following issues set by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):

1. Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web.
2. The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communication.
3. Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online.
4. Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.
5. Measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors.
6. Monitoring the online activities of minors.

EXPECTATIONS OF ALL USERS IN USE OF TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES:

1. Technology resources and electronic mail shall be used primarily for educational purposes.
2. Users shall not access inappropriate material on the Internet and World Wide Web, including but not limited to pornography, obscenity, hate mail, discriminatory remarks, or child pornography. Web sites are blocked for a variety of reasons. Unauthorized bypassing of the district web filter is prohibited.
3. Personal entertainment activities such as watching movie trailers or other non-educational streaming videos, playing on-line combat or other non-educational games, streaming radio stations or other non-educational audio streams, etc. are prohibited. These activities use bandwidth that could be otherwise used for valid educational purposes.
4. All users shall not engage in unauthorized access to the district system or to any other computer system through the district system or go beyond their authorized access. This includes attempting to log in through another person's account or access another person's files.
5. Computers not owned by the school district may not connect to the network (via a wired or wireless connection) for any reason without written permission from the administration.
6. Use of chat rooms, diary and blogging sites, news groups or other types of message boards is prohibited without written approval from the administration. Access will only be granted for valid classroom activities.
7. Due to the possibility of identity theft and/or other situations, all users shall not disclose, use, or disseminate any personal information of themselves or other people. Personal contact information includes address, telephone, school address, passwords or work address. Staff members may provide work-related information as required to perform their duties.
8. All users must make every effort to protect their password. It is never acceptable to intentionally divulge ones password.
9. Users will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the system performance or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means.
10. Staff members will monitor student use of technology resources.
11. Any use of the network for commercial or for-profit purposes, product advertisement, political lobbying or illegal activity is prohibited.
12. A proxy site is a web-based browsing service, which allows for surfing the web anonymously. It is a system that enables blocked web sites. Any use of a proxy site is strictly prohibited.
13. ISD retains ownership and rights of access to all files stored on equipment that is under the control of the district.
14. All users shall not engage in unlawful activities such as arranging for a drug sale or the purchase of alcohol, engaging in criminal gang activity, threatening the safety of a person, etc.

ADDITIONAL STUDENT EXPECTATIONS IN USE OF TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

1. Be courteous and respectful in your messages to others.
2. Use appropriate language: no swearing, vulgarities, suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or threatening language.
3. Promptly disclose to your principal, teacher, or computer aide any message you receive that is inappropriate or makes you feel uncomfortable.
4. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. Instructional Technology Staff who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. All student email addresses must use non-descriptive identifiers (such as numbers instead of names).
5. Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent/impersonate other users on the network.
6. Do not use the network in such a way that you disrupt the work of others.
7. The illegal installation and/or utilization of copyrighted/unauthorized games, programs, files, or other electronic media on ISD computers is prohibited.
8. Iroquois School District retains ownership and rights of access to all files stored on the equipment under the control of the District.
9. Users will limit printing to educationally relevant content based on School District curricula.
10. Any use of the network for commercial or for-profit purposes, product advertisement, political lobbying which alleges to be on behalf of the District or illegal activity is prohibited. Commercial purposes are defined as offering or providing goods or services for personal use.

ENFORCEMENT OF POLICY:

ISD uses a technology protection measure that blocks or filters access to some World Wide Web sites that are not in accordance with the policy of the ISD. This measure protects against access by adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, such as, child pornography or - with respect to use of computers with Internet access by minors - harmful to minors. Filtering may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes. To ensure enforcement of the policy, ISD will monitor use of the technological resources through direct supervision, monitoring Internet use history or various software and hardware tools. However, it is not practically possible for ISD to monitor and enforce a wide range of social values in student use of the Internet. Further, the District recognizes that parents or legal guardians bear primary responsibility for transmitting their particular set of family values to their children. The district encourages parents and legal guardians to specify to their children what material is and is not acceptable for their child(ren) to access through the district system.

DISTRICT LIMITATION OF LIABILITY:

The District makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the district system is error-free or without defect. The District will not be responsible for any damage users may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. The District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. The District will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE:

System users have a limited privacy expectation in the contents of their personal files on the District system. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the system may lead to discovery that the user has or is violating this policy, other district policies or the law. An individual search may be conducted if there is a reasonable suspicion that the User has violated the law or District policy. The nature of the investigation will be reasonable and in the context of the nature of the alleged violation. District staff should be aware that their personal files are discoverable under state public records law.

VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY:

Violation of Iroquois School District's Internet Acceptable Use Policy in any way may result in suspension or loss of the privilege to access the Internet or other technology resources provided by the school. Other disciplinary action may be taken in accordance with existing ISD policy and will be tailored to meet specific concerns related to the violation. When necessary, the District may call in law enforcement agencies. The district will cooperate fully with local, state or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to any illegal activities conducted through the district system.

Offenders may also be subject to criminal prosecution. Under Pennsylvania law, it is a felony punishable by fine of up to \$15,000 and imprisonment of up to seven (7) years for any person to access, alter or damage any computer system, networking, software or database, or any part thereof, with the intent to interrupt the normal functioning of an organization. Knowingly and without authorization, disclosing a password to a computer system, network, etc. is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000 and imprisonment of up to five (5) years, as it is intentional and unauthorized access to a computer, interference with the operation of a computer or network, or alteration of computer software.

**Internet Safety and Acceptable Use
Consent to Become a K12Planet.com Member and
Disclosure of Student e-mail Address**

SIGNATURE FORM

Student User Agreement:

I understand and will abide by the procedures and Internet Safety Policy (ISP) for independent access to the electronic resources of the Iroquois School District. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

In consideration for the privilege of using the Iroquois School District's electronic resources and in consideration for having access to the information contained on it, I hereby release and agree to hold Iroquois School District harmless from any and all claims or damages of any nature arising from my access, use, or inability to access or use the computers or network system.

Student Name (Please Print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Consent for Independent Use:

As the parent/guardian of the student signing above, I have read the Internet Acceptable Use Policy (ISP) and guidelines for independent use established by the Iroquois School District. I grant permission for my son or daughter to access networked computer services such as electronic mail, the Internet and World Wide Web. I understand and agree that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. I understand that some materials on the computers, or Internet may be objectionable despite the fact that the District uses N2H2 Internet filtering software. I accept responsibility for guidance of computer or Internet and World Wide Web use - setting and conveying standards for my son or daughter to follow when selecting, sharing, or exploring information or media.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Consent For Student to become a member of K12Planet.com:

As the parent or guardian of the student signing above, I have reviewed the K12Planet.com. Policy understandings and expectations and consent to allow my child to become a member of K12Planet.com.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Consent For Student to disclose E-mail address:

As the parent/guardian of the student signing above, I have reviewed the K12Planet.com. Policy understandings and expectations and consent to allow my child to disclose their e-mail address to be used by teachers, school administrators and the system administrator at the school for communication purposes related to K12Planet.com utilization.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____
