

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Education of School District No. 169 in the County of Cook, State of Illinois that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. at Medgar Evers Primary School, 1101 E. 10th Street, Room 218, Ford Heights, Illinois, for the purpose of Instructional Resources Access to the Internet and acceptable use Policy Number 6.235.

All persons desiring to appear and be heard concerning this issue should attend.

Dated this 29th day of October 2010.

Board of Education
School District No.169
In the County of Cook
State of Illinois
By: Ester Viverette,
Board Secretary

INSTRUCTION

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES - Access to the Internet and Acceptable Use Policy

Access to the Internet

The School Board's goal is to include the Internet in 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 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 teachers. "Internet" includes all information accessed by Internet sites, E-Mail, on-line services, and bulletin board systems.

Curriculum

The use of the Internet shall 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. The Internet shall comply with the selection criteria for instructional materials and library-media center materials. Teachers may, consistent with the Superintendent's implementation plan, use the Internet throughout the curriculum.

The internet is part of the curriculum and is not a public forum for general use.

Acceptable Use

All use of the District's connection to the Internet must be in support of education and/or research, and be in furtherance of the School Board's stated goal. Use is a privilege, not a right. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using the Internet. The District's *Internet Implementation Plan* contains the appropriate uses, ethics, and protocol for the Internet. Electronic communications and downloaded material may be monitored or read by school officials.

INSTRUCTION

INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES - Access to the Internet and Acceptable Use Policy
- Continued

Authorization for Internet Access

To this end, all students and staff will have access to the Internet at Ford Heights School District #169 schools.

Any misuse of the Internet by students or staff shall result in disciplinary action, the loss of privileges, and/or appropriate legal action.

ADOPTED:

INTERNET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Acceptable Use of the Internet

All use of the Internet shall be consistent with the District's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These procedures do not attempt to state all required or proscribed behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

Terms and Conditions

1. **Acceptable Use** - Access to the District's Internet must be for the purpose of education or research and be consistent with the educational objectives of the District.
2. **Privileges** - The use of the District's Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of these privileges. The system administrator will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time; his or her decision is final.
3. **Unacceptable Use** - The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the network. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:
 - A. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any U.S. or State Regulation;
 - B. Unauthorized downloading of software, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or devirused;
 - C. Downloading copyrighted material for other than personal use;
 - D. Using the network for private financial or commercial gain;
 - E. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;

- F. Gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities;
 - G. Invading the privacy of individuals;
 - H. Using another user's account or password;
 - I. Posting material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
 - J. Posting anonymous messages;
 - K. Using the network for commercial or private advertising;
 - L. Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material; and
 - M. Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked.
4. Network Etiquette - You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to the following:
- A. Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others.
 - B. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
 - C. Do not reveal the personal address or telephone numbers of students or colleagues.
 - D. Recognize that electronic (E-Mail) is not private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to authorities.
 - E. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
 - F. Consider all communications and information accessible via the network to be

private property.

5. **No Warranties** - The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its service.
6. **Indemnification** - The User agrees to indemnify the School District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to or arising out of any violation of these procedures.
7. **Security** - Network security is a high priority. If you can identify a security problem on the Internet, you must notify the system administrator or Building Principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep the user's account and password confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log-on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the network.
8. **Vandalism** - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.
9. **Telephone Charges** - The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

Communication Plan

The Board recognized that as telecommunications and other new technologies shift the ways that information may be accessed, communicated, and transferred by members of the society, those changes may also alter instruction and student learning. The Board generally supports access to rich information resources along with the development by staff or appropriate skills to analyze and evaluate such resources. In a free and democratic society, access to

information is a fundamental right of citizenship. To this end, all students and staff will have access to the Internet at the schools of Ford Heights School District #169.

Telecommunications, electronic information sources and networked services significantly alter the information landscape for schools by opening classrooms to a broader array of resources. In the past, instructional and library media materials could usually be screened—prior to use—by committees of educators and community members intent on subjecting all such materials to reasonable selection criteria. Board Policy requires that all such materials be consistent with district-adopted guides, supporting and enriching the curriculum while taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and developmental levels of the students. Telecommunications, because they may lead to any publicly available files server in the world, will open classrooms to electronic information resources which have not been screened by educators for use by students of various ages.

Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees during an Age of Information. The Board expects that staff will blend thoughtful use of such information throughout the curriculum and that the staff will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of such resources. Staff will consult the guidelines for instructional materials contained in Board Policy and will honor the goals for selection of instructional materials contained therein.

Students, Instructional and District staff are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks, just as they are in a classroom or hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. The network is provided for students, instructional and clerical staffs to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services will be provided to students and staff who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner.

Misuse can come in many forms, but can be viewed as any messages sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, hate groups or any type of inappropriate language, and other such issues.

Further, the District does not have control of information on the Internet, although it attempts to provide prudent security and available electronic barriers. Sites accessible via the Internet may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people.

Authorization for Electronic Network Access

Access to telecommunications will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with people throughout the world. The Board believes that the benefits to students from access in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. But, ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Each year a parent or guardian must sign a permission slip for his or her student to have Internet access.

Each district staff member must sign an authorization for electronic network access each year. 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.

All users of the District's computers and means of 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 onto the network.

LEGAL REF.: Children's Internet Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. §254, P.L. 106-554.
20 U.S.C. §6801 *et. seq.*
47 U.S.C. §254(h) abd (1).
720 ILCS 135/0.01.

ADOPTED: April 3, 2007