TOWNSHIP OF BYRAM BOARD OF EDUCATION
12 Mansfield Drive – Stanhope, New Jersey 07874

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Regulation No. 6165R
Administrative Directive

Terms and Conditions For Use Of Computer Technology and Internet Access

The Byram Township Board of Education recognizes that the use of technology in the educational process is essential as part of the schooling experience. In order to provide direction and meaning in the use of technology as an instructional tool, the board directs that the Chief School Administrator and teaching staff use technology as a regular part of the teaching/learning process in every area of the curriculum.

The board supports access by pupil to information sources through technology but reserves the right to limit in-school use to materials appropriate to educational purposes. The board provides access to computers/ computer network for educational purposes only. The board retains the right to restrict or terminate pupil access to the computers/computer network at any time for any reason. The board retains the right to have district personnel monitor network activity, in any form necessary, to maintain the integrity of the network and ensure its proper use.

The board directs the Chief School Administrator to develop guidelines for use of the Internet and to develop a Student Responsibility/Acceptable Use Agreement to ensure that students, staff and parents are informed and agree to respect the use of the Internet for valid educational objectives.

GUIDELINES

1. Acceptable Use - Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or State regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. Use for commercial activities by for-profit agencies is not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.

2. Privileges - The use of Internet is not a right, but a privilege and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of that privilege. Each individual who receives an account will receive information pertaining to the proper use of the network. School administrators will decide what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. An account may be closed by the district at any time deemed necessary or by recommendation of the administration, faculty, or staff.

3. Netiquette - Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:

    a. Be polite. Abusive or inappropriate messages sent to others is unacceptable.
    b. Use appropriate language. Swearing, use of vulgarities or any other inappropriate language will not be tolerated. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
    c. Personal addresses or phone numbers of students or colleagues should not be revealed.
    d. Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People 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.
    e. The network should not be used in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
    f. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.

4. Warranties - The Byram Township Board of Education makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. Byram Township Schools will not be responsible for any damages suffered including loss of data. The district will not be responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through this Internet connection.

5. Security on a computer system is a high priority. Identification of a security problem on the Internet must be reported to the teacher and then a building administrator immediately. The problem should not be shown or identified to others. Attempts to log on as another user will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with computer systems may be denied access.

6. Vandalism - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any of the above listed agencies or other networks that are connected. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

7. Updating User Information - The Byram Township School District may occasionally require new registration information from the user to continue the service. The user must notify the district of any changes in your access information (address, etc.).

8. Exception of Terms and Conditions - All terms and conditions as stated in this document are applicable to all users of the district. These terms and conditions reflect the entire agreement of the parties. These terms and conditions shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, and the United States of America.

APPROPRIATE USE

While electronic information resources offer tremendous opportunities of educational value, they also offer persons with illegal or unethical purposes avenues for reaching students, teachers, and others, including parents. The following represent some of the inappropriate uses that may occur:

a. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts.
b. Using the network for financial or commercial gain.
c. Degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance.
d. Vandalizing the data of another user.
e. Wastefully using finite resources.
f. Gaining unauthorized access to resources or entities.
g. Using an account owned by another user without authorization.
h. Posting personal communications without the author's consent.
i. Posting anonymous messages.
j. Placing of unlawful information on a system.
k. Using abusive or otherwise objectionable language in either public or private messages.
l. Sending of messages that are likely to result in the loss of recipients' work or systems.
m. Sending of "chain letters" or "broadcast" messages to lists or individuals, and any other types of use which would cause congestion of the networks or otherwise interfere with the work of others.
n. Using the network to access a file that contains pornographic pictures.
o. Using the network to send/receive messages that are racist.
p. Creating a computer virus and placing it on the network.
q. Using the network to send/receive a message that is inconsistent with the school's code of conduct.
r. Using the network to send/receive messages that are sexist and contain obscenities.

CONSENT REQUIREMENT

No pupil shall be allowed to use the computer network and the Internet unless they shall have filed with the principal or his/her designee a consent form signed by the pupil and his/her parent(s) or guardian(s). See contract for Internet access.

VIOLATIONS

Individuals violating this policy shall be subject to the consequences as indicated in Guidelines to Policy and other appropriate discipline, which includes but are not limited to:

1. Use of the network only under direct supervision;
2. Suspension of network privileges;
3. Revocation of network privileges;
4. Suspension of computer privileges;
5. Revocation of computer privileges;
6. Suspension from school;
7. Expulsion from school and/or
8. Legal action and prosecution by the authorities.

Adopted: May 27, 1998
Revised: September 23, 1998