

QUAKERTOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Acceptable Use of the Internet and District Computer System

The Quakertown Community School District has adopted a policy that addresses the use of the Internet and District Computer System. The policy has addressed those items that are part of the Children's Internet Protection Act. The use of the Internet is extended to students to facilitate learning at all grade levels. Thus, each year you or your child, if he or she is over 18, must sign and submit this form indicating that permission is granted for each child to have access to the Internet and district Computer System as school.

Use of the Quakertown Community School District network to access the Internet is extended to students to enhance curriculum studies and to facilitate technological literacy. It is understood that the District does not have sufficient staff to monitor every person's use of this system at all times. It is also understood that the use of the District's network is a privilege extended to students for use as an education resource. As the District provides access to this resource for instructional purposes, compliance with reasonable procedures and standards for appropriate behavior is required.

I understand and will abide by the District's "Acceptable Use of Internet and District Computer System" policy.

Student User Signature _____	Date _____
User Name (print) _____	School _____
Parent Signature _____	Date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I give permission.	<input type="checkbox"/> No, I do not give permission.

BOARD POLICY

Acceptable Use of Internet and District Computer System for Students

Purpose

The Board supports the use of the Internet and other computer networks in the District's instructional program in order to facilitate learning and teaching through interpersonal communications access to information, research and collaboration.

The use of network facilities shall be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the School District as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of students.

Authority

The electronic information available to students does not imply endorsement of the content by the School District, nor does the District guarantee the accuracy of information received on the Internet. The District shall not be 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.

The School District shall not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

The District reserves the right to log network use and to monitor fileserver space utilization by District users.

The Board establishes that use of the Internet and the school's computer network is a privilege, not a right; inappropriate, unauthorized and illegal use will result in the cancellation of

those privileges and appropriate disciplinary action.

Delegation of Responsibility

The District will endeavor to ensure that this educational resource is used responsibly by students.

Administrators, teachers and staff have a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the intellectual skills necessary to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use the information to meet their educational goals.

Students have the responsibility to respect and protect the rights of every other user in the District and on the Internet.

Guidelines

Network accounts may be used only by the authorized owner of the account for its authorized purpose. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property and shall not be disclosed. Network users shall respect the privacy rights of other users on the system.

Prohibitions

Students are expected to act in a responsible, ethical and legal manner in accordance with District policy, accepted rules of network etiquette, and federal and State law. By way of example, the following uses are prohibited:

(continued on reverse side)

1. Use of the network to facilitate illegal activity.
2. Use of the network for commercial or for-profit purposes.
3. Use of the network for personal, non-work or non-school-related work.
4. Use of the network for product advertisement or political lobbying.
5. Use of the network for hate mail, discriminatory remarks, and offensive or inflammatory communication.
6. Unauthorized or illegal installation, distribution, reproduction, or use of copyrighted materials.
7. Use of network to access obscene or pornographic material.
8. Use of inappropriate language or profanity on the network.
9. Use of the network to transmit material likely to be offensive or objectionable to recipients.
10. Use of the network to intentionally obtain or modify files, passwords, and data belonging to other users.
11. Impersonation of another user, anonymity, and pseudonyms.
12. Use of network facilities for fraudulent copying, communications, or modification of materials in violation of copyright laws.
13. Loading or use of unauthorized games, programs, files, or other electronic media.
14. Use of the network to disrupt the work of other users.
15. Destruction, modification, or abuse of network hardware and software.
16. Quoting personal communications in a public forum without the original author's prior consent.

Safety

To the extent possible, users of the network will be protected from harassment or unwanted or unsolicited communication. Any network user who receives threatening or unwelcome communications shall immediately bring them to the attention of a teacher or administrator.

Student users shall not reveal personal addresses or telephone numbers to other users on the District network, or to other individuals, companies or organizations on the Internet.

Copyright

The illegal use of copyrighted software by students and staff is prohibited. Any data uploaded to or downloaded from the network is subject to "fair use" guidelines.

Security

System security is protected through the use of passwords. Failure to adequately protect or update passwords could result in unauthorized access to personal or District files. To protect the integrity of the system, the following guidelines shall be followed:

1. Students shall not reveal their passwords to another individual.
2. Unless authorized by a teacher, users are not to use a computer that has been logged-in under another student's or teacher's name.
3. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the network.

Consequences for Inappropriate Use

The network user shall be responsible for damages to the equipment, systems, and software resulting from deliberate or willful acts.

Illegal use of the network; intentional deletion or damage to files or data belonging to others; copyright violations or theft of services will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities for possible prosecution.

General rules for behavior and communications apply when using the Internet, in addition to the stipulations of this policy. Loss of access and other disciplinary actions shall be consequences for inappropriate use.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of access privileges. Vandalism is defined as any attempt to harm or destroy software, data of another user, Internet, operating systems or other networks. This includes but is not limited to the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

