

INTERNET AND THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Policy Code: 3225/7320

The Internet is a unique opportunity to enhance instructional methods, appeal to different learning styles, and meet the educational goals of the board. Through the Internet, users can observe events as they occur around the world, interact with others on a variety of subjects, and acquire access to current and in-depth information.

As the Internet is made available in the schools, the use of the Internet should be integrated into the educational program. The Internet should be used in teaching the North Carolina Standard Course of Study and in meeting the educational goals of the board. Suggestions for using the Internet may be provided in state/local curriculum guides. Teachers are encouraged to further incorporate the use of the Internet into their lesson plans.

REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF THE INTERNET

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Any users of the Internet, including staff, students, and visitors must comply with the following requirements.

- The Internet is provided for school-related purposes only. No right of privacy exists in any communication on the Internet. The school district may monitor all communication and intercept e-mail messages as a part of ensuring compliance with board policy and applicable laws and regulations.
- Students must meet all standards of expected student behavior and comply with all board policies and school standards and rules.
- Employees must comply with all relevant board policies in using the Internet.
- No user of the Internet, including electronic communications may engage in creating or transmitting defamatory, pornographic or harassing images or documents.
- All applicable laws and board policies apply, including those relating to copyrights/trademarks, confidential information and public records.
- Teachers will make reasonable efforts to supervise a student's use of the Internet during instructional time.
- Use of the Internet for commercial gain or profit is not allowed from an educational site.
- Views may be expressed as representing the view of the school district or part of the school district only with prior approval by the superintendent or his or her designee.
- Users will not violate the rights of any person or company protected by copyright, trade secret, patent or other intellectual property regulation.

- Users will not export software, information, encryption mechanisms, or other technology in violation to international or regional export control laws.
- Users are forbidden to knowingly introduce malicious programs into the network or servers. Examples of these include but are not limited to the following: viruses, worms, Trojan horses, mass e-mail exploits, spyware, and keyboard loggers.
- Users will not reveal passwords or other private information to others, including family and other household members.
- Users will not use any technology asset to engage in procuring or transmitting material that is in violation of sexual harassment laws.
- Users will not make any offers of fraudulent products or services that originate from an Elkin City Schools account.
- Users will not engage in port scanning or network monitoring unless prior notification is given to Elkin City Schools.
- Circumventing user authentication is not permissible.
- Users are not allowed to execute programs that will interfere or deny service to other users.
- Users will not provide information about, or lists of Elkin City Schools students or employees to outside parties, unless this transfer is approved by Elkin City Schools and adheres to the Elkin City Schools Directory Information policies; Student Records (policy 4700), Parental Involvement (Policy 1310/4002).
- Users will not send unsolicited email, including junk mail or other advertising material to individuals that did not specifically request such material.
- Users will not engage in any form of harassment via telephone, email, or other technology device.
- Users will not engage in unauthorized use of accounts including forging of email headers.
- Users will not create or forward email that contains “chain letters”, “Ponzi” or other “pyramid” schemes of any kind.
- Users will not engage in “spamming” through email or newsgroups.

RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Before a student may use the Internet for any purpose, the parent must be made aware of the possibility that the student could obtain access to inappropriate material. The parent and student must sign a consent form acknowledging that the student user is responsible for appropriate use of the Internet and consenting to the school district monitoring the student’s e-mail communication and use of the Internet.

The board is aware that there is information on the Internet that is not related to the educational program. The board also is aware that there is information and opportunities to communicate on subjects that are not suitable for school-age children and that many parents would find objectionable. The school district will take

reasonable precautions to prevent students from having access to inappropriate materials, such as violence, nudity, obscenity or graphic language which does not serve a legitimate pedagogical concern. The school district will not limit access to the Internet for the purpose of restricting access to political ideas or social perspectives if the action is not rated simply by a school district official's disapproval of the ideas involved. However, the user is ultimately responsible for his or her activity on the Internet.

DIRECTORY INFORMATION:

Elkin City Schools may choose to utilize directory information for several purposes. Examples include: a playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production, the annual yearbook, Elkin City Schools Website, Honor roll or other recognition lists, Graduation programs, Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members. Parents may elect to "op-out" to prevent the use of directory information for their student as provided in Parental Involvement (Policy 1310/4002)

Any employee found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. I; 17 U.S.C. 100 *et seq.*; Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. 2510-2522; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; G.S. 115C-391, -325(e)

Cross Reference: Curriculum and Instructional Guides (policy 3115), Technology in the Educational Program (policy 3220), Copyright Complaint (policy 3230/7330), Standards of Expected Student Behavior (policy 4310), Public Records (policy 5070), Staff Responsibilities (policy 7300), Student Records (policy 4700), Parental Involvement (Policy 1310/4002)

Cross Reference Forms: Letter to Parent/Guardian, Acceptable Use Agreement for Student Access to the Internet/Computer Systems, Acceptable use procedures for Internet Access by Employees of Elkin City Schools,

Adopted: June 29, 2006

Revised: April 23, 2007, December 21, 2009, August 27, 2012