

# **Internet, Electronic Mail and Computer Usage Student Acceptable Use Regulation**

**Webster Central School District (WCSD)**

**Students** may be authorized to use the District technologies, Internet facilities and connections for study, research, and communication related to their assigned course work, approved co-curricular activities and appropriate life long learning opportunities. Any on-site or off-site use of the WCSD Internet facilities and connections, which is not authorized or conducted strictly in compliance with this regulation or the District's policies, procedures and regulations, is prohibited. Users who engage in unauthorized use of the Internet, or who violate any of the terms and conditions of Internet use as prescribed by the District may have their user privileges suspended or revoked. Users granted access to the Internet facilities and connections through the District assume personal responsibility and liability, both civil and criminal, for their unauthorized or improper use.

## **Expectations**

Students may be authorized to use the WCSD technology equipment and Internet facilities and connections for study, research, and communications related to their assigned course work, approved co-curricular activities and appropriate life long learning opportunities. The instructional use of the Internet is governed by the District's policies, regulations, practices and procedures concerning the acquisition and use of textbooks, library books, and non-print media.

Any use of the Internet facilities, connections and computer equipment should always reflect academic honesty, high ethical standards and moral responsibility.

Users of the Internet and e-mail are expected to treat others with respect.

This means:

*\_ Use only the same polite and respectful language to communicate on the Internet and electronic mail as would be appropriate in face-to-face communications in school.*

*\_ Accessing or disseminating information that is illegal, defamatory, abusive, racially offensive, and/or adult-oriented will be deemed a violation of this regulation which could result in disciplinary and/or legal action against the violator.*

*\_ Students must respect their own privacy and the privacy of others by not revealing their or anyone else's personal address, telephone number, or password without authorization from a teacher or administrator.*

*\_ Treat the communications, information, and data bases you may gain access to through the Internet as private property. Use them only in ways for which you are sure that you have permission.*

## **Acceptable Uses**

**Acceptable** use of technology and all related resources requires users to:

- \_ Protect private information such as addresses, phone numbers, or passwords
- \_ Use appropriate language. This applies to public messages, private messages, and material posted on Web pages
- \_ Respect all copyright laws
- \_ Respect network limitations when sending or receiving information

- \_ Use the computers for their intended educational purposes only
- \_ Understand that use of the computer or the network for illegal activities is strictly prohibited
- \_ Shut down all computers at the end of each day

### **Unacceptable Use**

Examples of **Unacceptable** use of technology and all related resources include, but are not limited to:

- \_ Damaging computers, peripherals, computer systems, or computer networks
- \_ Gaining access to or trespassing in unauthorized files, folders, or computers
- \_ Using the network for commercial purposes
- \_ Accessing inappropriate Internet web sites or files
- \_ Annoyance or harassment of others
- \_ Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other licenses or contracts
- \_ Accessing chat rooms, instant messaging or blogging which are not a part of a class activity directly under the supervision of a teacher or educationally inappropriate.
- \_ Mass e-mailings for non-educational or non-professional purposes
- \_ Degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance
- \_ Using abusive or otherwise objectionable language in either public or private messages
- \_ Threatening, harassing, insulting or attacking others
- \_ Posting anonymous messages
- \_ Causing undue congestion of the network through lengthy downloads of files, or by engaging in idle activities i.e. wasting resources
- \_ Vandalizing the data of another user
- \_ Identifying one's self with another person's name
- \_ Using an account or password of another user without authorization
- \_ Theft of data, equipment, or intellectual property

*A student's privileges may be revoked, suspended, or modified by the building principal. The building principal shall promptly notify the student and parents as necessary. The student and parents shall have the right to an informal conference with the building principal to discuss the basis of the action taken. The decision of the building principal may be appealed to the Superintendent. A student's conduct on the Internet which would be a violation of the WCSD student discipline code may result in disciplinary action in addition to a revocation, suspension, or modification of Internet privileges. Any such disciplinary action must be taken in accordance with the applicable due process of law and WCSD policies, practices and procedures.*