

Stuart Public School
Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Please read the following carefully before signing document.

Internet access is available to students and teachers in the Stuart Public School district. We are very pleased to bring this access to our school and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service to students and teachers is to promote educational excellence in the Stuart Public Schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. The internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. Students and teachers have access to:

- 1) Electronic mail communication with people all over the world
- 2) Information and news
- 3) Public domain and shareware of all types
- 4) Discussion groups on an over abundance of topics ranging from diverse cultures to the environment to music to politics
- 5) Access to many university catalogs

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of materials that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. **The Local Education Agency and the Internet provider have taken available precautions to restrict access to inappropriate materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control materials and an industrious user may discover inappropriate information.**

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies, and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. In general this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a LEA user violates any of the provisions, their access will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legal binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand (s) their significance.

Terms and Conditions

- 1) Acceptable use - The purpose of NSFNET, which is the backbone network to the Internet, is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the U.S. by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. School use must be in support of education and research and consistent with education objectives. Use of the organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copy right material protected by trade secret. Use for product advertisement of political lobbying is also prohibited. Use for commercial activities is generally not acceptable.
- 2) Privileges – the use of the internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. Each student who receives access will participate in a discussion with an LEA faculty member pertaining to the proper use of the network. The system administrators and teachers will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. The district may deny, revoke, or suspend specific user access.
- 3) Netiquette – you are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but not limited to the following.
 - A) Be polite. Your messages should not be abusive to others.
 - B) Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgarities at any time.
 - C) Do not reveal your personal address or phone number or the addresses and / or phone numbers of students or colleagues.
 - D) Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
 - E) Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
 - F) Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of network by other users.
 - G) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.
- 4) The LEA and the Stuart Public School make no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied for the service it is providing. The LEA and the Internet Provider will not be responsible for any damages suffered. This includes the loss of data resulting from delays, non deliveries, or services interrupted caused by negligence, errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the LEA, or the Internet provider is at the users own risk. The LEA is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained.
- 5) Security – Security on any computer system is high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the Internet you must notify a teacher who will in turn notify a system administrator. Do not demonstrate any problems to other users. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to access Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user's privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the Internet.
- 6) Vandalism – Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware, data or another user, Internet, or any agencies or other networks that are connected to the NSFNET Internet backbone. This includes, but not limited, to the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

- 7) Exception of Terms and Condition – all terms and conditions as stated in this document are applicable to the LEA, the Internet Provider, in addition to NSFNET. Those terms and conditions reflect the entire agreement of the parties and supersede all prior oral or written agreements and understandings of the parties. These terms and conditions shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state of Oklahoma, and the United States of America.
- 8) E-mail addendum: Stuart Public Schools Students will not be allowed to use e-mail without direct supervision of a teacher and will not be allowed to use e-mail as a personal tool of communication. All e-mail must be used as an educational tool. Any violation of this will result in restricted use of the internet for the student/students involved. For the purpose of this policy, “restricted use” will be determined by the Building Principal and will vary depending upon the nature of the violation.
- 9) **Cyber bullying** – Cyber bullying is when one or more people intentionally harm, harass, intimidate, or reject another person using technology. This includes but is not limited to the following:
 - Sending mean or threatening messages via e-mail, IM (instant messaging), or text messages.
 - Spreading rumors about others through e-mail, IM, or text messages.
 - Creating a Web site or any social media networking account that targets another student or person(s)
 - Sharing fake or embarrassing photos or videos of someone with others via cell phone or the Web.
 - Stealing another person’s login and password to send mean or embarrassing messages from his or her account.

It shall be the policy of Stuart Public Schools that cyber bullying will not be tolerated under any circumstances. A student caught violating this policy will lose computer privileges and these actions may result in further disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion from school of the student (s) involved. In addition, violators and their parents/guardians may be subject to civil and/ or criminal penalties as specified by Oklahoma and/or federal law.