Title: ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY Policy No.: ICA

## NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT BLOCK ISLAND SCHOOL

The New Shoreham School District realizes the value of access to the Internet. It also recognizes the potential for abuse. In an effort to prevent such abuse, all students in grades 5-12 are required to complete the Block Island School Network's (BISN) Acceptable Use Policy at the beginning of each year. No student will be allowed to log on to the BISN without a completed Acceptable Use Policy signed by both the student and his/her parent/guardian.

Please read the policy carefully before signing; this is a legally binding document. The purpose of the BISN with Internet access is to support education by providing access to a wide range of resources and opportunities for collaborative work with other schools and agencies. All students in grades 5-12 who agree to abide by the BISN Acceptable Use Policy will be given a password protected student account with Internet access and a school email account. It is very important that only you know your password. Passwords are never to be shared! It is a violation of BISN policy to share passwords!

BISN uses a program called a proxy to filter/block unsuitable Internet sites. No filtering method is perfect, however, and on a global network it is impossible to filter all material and guarantee that no questionable material can be accessed. Some legitimate sites might be blocked by the rules invoked by the filtering software. If a student wishes access to a site that is blocked, he/she may request in writing that it be unblocked, and provide the complete URL for the site requested to be unblocked. This should be given to the technology coordinator for review and, if deemed acceptable, the site will be unblocked.

The following items are not permitted under the BISN rules:

- 1. Logging on under anyone else's account or accessing anyone else's email
- 2. Any type of vandalism to hardware, software, furniture, etc.
- 3. Sending inappropriate, obscene, or harassing email
- 4. Excessive printing, including printing of large downloaded files
- 5. Visiting chat rooms
- 6. Using web based email as your BISN email account
- 7. Visiting inappropriate web sites (pornographic, etc.)
- 8. Plagiarism or violation of copyright
- 9. Loading software of any kind whether from the Internet or another source
- 10. Downloading programs of any kind to the BISN.

Violation of the above rules will result in one or more of the following consequences:

- 1. Loss of network privileges
- 2. Loss of Internet privileges
- 3. Further disciplinary actions as warranted in cases of harassment, vandalism, plagiarism, distributing of obscene or objectionable materials, pornography, or any criminal activity as specified in the Block Island School Student Handbook.

Adopted: February 14, 2000

New Shoreham School District, Block Island School

## NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY AGREEMENT

## **STUDENT**

I understand and will abide by the BISN Acceptable Use Policy. I also understand that violation of certain regulations may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my network privileges may be revoked and further school disciplinary action may be taken.

Student's Full Name (please print):
Student's Signature:
PARENT/GUARDIAN
As the parent/guardian of this student, I have read the BISN Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that the BISN is designed for educational purposes. The Block Island School has taken precautions to screen controversial or objectionable material. However, I realize that it is impossible to ensure that no objectionable material can be accessed and I will not hold the Block Island School responsible for materials acquired on the BISN. I give my permission to issue a BISN account to the above named student.
Parent/Guardian's Name (please print):
Parent/Guardian's Signature:
Date: