

# Acceptable Use Policy for Computer Network Communications Parent/Student Internet Permission Form 2020-21

Dear Parent and Student:

Internet Access:

Warren County Schools is pleased to offer students access to a computer network for electronic mail and the Internet. To gain access to e-mail and the Internet, all students must obtain parental permission through a signed permission form. (Board Policy 3225/7320). Should a parent prefer that a student not have Internet access, use of the computers is still possible for more traditional purposes such as word processing.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered of educational value in the school setting. Warren County Schools restricts access to material that is inappropriate in the school environment, and thus, have installed blocking software to limit access to inappropriate material. This software is not entirely effective in blocking access and, therefore, we cannot guarantee that your child will not gain access to inappropriate material. On a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover such materials. Nevertheless, Warren County Schools firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material inconsistent with the educational goals of the school. If such inappropriate material is inadvertently encountered, it shall be disengaged immediately, and the student should report it to their teacher or a network administrator immediately.

All users must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are contained in Board Policies 3225/7320 Internet and the Educational Program and 3227/7322 Web Page Development. If a user violates any of these provisions, his or her access privileges may be revoked, and disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

## **The School's District Appropriate Internet Use Policies:**

As outlined by Warren County Schools and in Board Policy 3225/7320 Internet and the Educational Program, copies of which are available in school offices, the following rules must be observed:

- Acceptable Use - Use of the Internet must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of Warren County Schools. Use of the Internet for commercial activities is prohibited, as is use for political lobbying.
- Restricted Material - Users shall not intentionally access or download any text file, picture (including video), graphic, or sound clip, or engage in any conference, that includes material which is obscene, libelous, indecent, vulgar, profane, or lewd, or which advertises any products or service not permitted to minors by law.
- Copyright Infringement - Users shall respect all copyright, trademark, and licensing agreements and laws, including seeking permission when required.
- Network Etiquette - Users are expected to abide by the following rules of network etiquette:
  - a. Use appropriate language: Use of language which is vulgar, profane, or lewd is prohibited.
  - b. Do not send messages which include insulting or fighting words, or expressions which are designed, intended, or likely to injure or harass others.
  - c. Do not give out personal information such as home address, home phone number or last name, whether about yourself or about other students or colleagues.
  - d. Note that electronic (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system may be able to access all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
  - e. Do not use the network in such a way as to disrupt the use of the network by other users.

- f. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property. Students should never download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless they have permission from a Network Administrator.
- Access Protocol - To ensure accessibility of the system to all who wish to use it:
    - a. Remain on the system only long enough to get needed information, then exit the system.
    - b. Real-time conference features such as talk, chat, and Internet Relay chat are not to be used without prior approval of the principal.
    - c. Perform a virus check on all downloaded files to avoid the spreading of viruses. Students should never download or install any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto network drives or disks, unless they have permission from a Network Administrator.
  - Quality of Information - The Board makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the service it is providing. Warren County Schools and Warren County Schools will not be responsible for any damages suffered by any user. Such damages include, but are not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-delivers, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions, whether caused by the School System's or the user's negligence, errors, or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the risk of the user. Warren County Schools and Warren County Schools specifically disclaim any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its Internet services.
  - Proper Citation - When using information obtained via the Internet, provide proper citations for all quotes, references, and sources. It is unethical to plagiarize Internet resources, just as it is unethical to plagiarize print resources.
  - Vandalism - Vandalism will result in immediate cancellation of user privileges and will require restitution. Vandalism is defined as any deliberate attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, including, but not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.
  - Privileges - The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. This privilege may be revoked for violation of the School and Board Policy. Inappropriate or illegal use of the Internet may also result in disciplinary or legal action.

### **Student Internet Use: (Board Policy 3225/7320)**

Students will have access to the Internet when authorized by the principal or designee, through individual student accounts and/or electronic mail address issued to them.

Student access to the Internet will be permitted during class time and at designated times after the school day. Instructional staff will monitor Internet use.

Though supervising instructors will guide students in their use of the Internet, and attempt to restrict their access to inappropriate materials, the Board cannot guarantee that students will not encounter such materials.

If, in using the Internet outside of class time, a student gains access to any service via the Internet which has a cost involved, he or she will be responsible for any costs incurred.

**Furthermore**, students should realize that network use is logged and is subject to administrative monitoring/review at any time.

Students that break the policy may face one or all of the following consequences:

- Loss of network/Internet access
- Parent conference

**Parents should feel free to contact your child's school to address any concerns they may have about their child's access to the internet.**

# Warren County Schools

## User Agreement and Parent Permission Form – 2020-21

### RETURN THIS FORM TO Warren County Schools

A student and the student's parents or guardians, by submitting the User Agreement and Parent Permission Form with their respective signatures in order to gain access to the computer network, agree to release Warren County Schools from any liability for physical or emotional harm or damage resulting to the student that is caused by or related to the inappropriate use of the computer network.

#### STUDENT SECTION:

As a user of the Warren County Schools computer network, I have read the policy and hereby agree to comply with the above stated rules - communicating over the network in a reliable fashion while honoring all relevant laws and restrictions. I understand that if I violate the rules my account can be terminated and I may face other disciplinary measures.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### PARENT SECTION:

As the parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I have read the policy and do grant permission for my son or daughter to access networked computer services such as electronic mail and the Internet. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations of this policy. I understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for guidance of Internet use - setting and conveying standards for my daughter or son to follow when selecting, sharing or exploring information and media. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information on this form is correct.

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

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- **Note: Student application must be renewed each academic year.**