

## COMPUTER SECURITY, E-MAIL AND INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

The Profile School District has established this policy with regard to access and disclosure of electronic data composed, stored, sent, or received by employees using the District computer system. This policy is designed to protect the safety and security of the District's computer systems including E-mail and internet use.

The District intends to enforce the rules set forth below and reserves the right to change these rules at any time.

1. The computer hardware system, software and E-mail system are owned by the District, and all messages or data composed, stored, sent, or received using the system are and remain the private property of the District. They are not the property of the employee.
2. The computer and E-mail system is to be used for business purposes. Personal business is unauthorized during school operating hours.
3. The electronic mail system may not be used to solicit or proselytize for commercial ventures, religious or political causes, outside organizations, or other non-job-related solicitations.
4. The District prohibits discriminatory, harassing, or offensive materials in any form of media. Among those which are considered offensive are any messages which contain sexual implications, racial slurs, gender-specific comments, or any other comments that offensively address someone's age, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, national origin, or disability.
5. The electronic mail system shall not be used to send (upload) or receive (download) copyrighted materials, trade secrets, proprietary financial information, or similar materials without prior authorization.
6. The District reserves, and intends to exercise without prior notice, the right to read, review, audit, intercept, access or disclose any and all information on an employee's computer system or messages created, received or sent over the electronic mail system for any purpose, even if coded or pass worded.
7. The confidentiality of any message or data should not be assumed. Even when a message is erased, it is still possible to retrieve and read that message. The use of passwords for school hardware, software and data base security does not guarantee confidentiality, or that the District will not retrieve it. These passwords must be disclosed to the computer administrator.
8. Any communications created, sent, or retrieved using E-mail may be read by individuals other than the intended recipient.

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(continued)

9. Notwithstanding the District's right to retrieve and monitor any E-mail messages, such messages should be treated as confidential by other employees and accessed only by the intended recipient. Employees are not authorized to retrieve or read any E-mail that is not sent to them. Any exception to this policy must receive prior approval by the Superintendent.
10. Any employee who violates this policy or uses the computer system or electronic mail system for improper purposes shall be subject to discipline up to and including discharge.
11. The District has the authority to terminate or limit access to any program at any time.
12. Software cannot be installed on the system unless pre-authorized by the computer coordinator.

**Legal Reference:***RSA 194:3-d, School District Computer Networks*1<sup>st</sup> Reading: 01/22/082<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

Adoption: 4/29/08

**Profile School Board Policy**

**GBEF**

*Category: Priority/Required by Law*

*See also EHAA, JICL*

**SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERNET ACCESS FOR STAFF**

The School Board recognizes that technological resources can enhance teacher performance by offering effective tools to assist in providing a quality instructional program, facilitating communications with parents/guardians, teachers, and the community, supporting District and school operations, and improving access to and exchange of information. The Board expects all staff to learn to use the available technological resources that will assist them in the performance of their education. As needed, staff shall receive training, lessons and instruction in the appropriate use of these resources.

Staff shall be responsible for the appropriate use of technology and shall use the District's technological resources primarily for purposes related to their education. Staff are hereby notified that there is no expectation of privacy on district computers, computer files, email, internet usage logs, and other electronic data.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all District computers with Internet access have a technology protection measure that prevents access to visual depictions that are obscene or pornographic and that the operation of such measures is enforced. The Superintendent or designee may disable the technology protection measure during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research, educational or other lawful purpose.

The Superintendent shall establish administrative regulations and an Acceptable Use Agreement that outlines staff obligations and responsibilities related to the use of District technology. He/she also may establish guidelines and limits on the use of technological resources. Inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of the staff member's user privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide copies of related policies, regulations, and guidelines to all staff. Staff shall be required to acknowledge in writing that they have read and understood the District's Acceptable Use Agreement.

**Legal References:**

*RSA 194:3-d, School District Computer Networks*

*47 U.S.C. §254, Requirements For Certain Schools – Internet Safety*

*20 U.S.C. §6777, Enhancing Education Through Technology – Internet Safety*

*Appendix: GBEF-R*

New Policy: April 2010 (replaces EGA and IJNDB)

First Reading: August 23, 2012  
Second Reading: September 27, 2012  
Approval: September 27, 2012

ACCEPTABLE INTERNET USE PROCEDURES - STAFF

Purpose

The purpose of the Acceptable Use Procedures is to provide the procedures, rules, guidelines, and the code of conduct for the use of technology and the Internet.

Definition

The definition of "information networks" is any configuration of hardware and software which connects users. The network includes, but is not limited to, all of the computer hardware, operating system software, application software, stored text and data files. This includes electronic mail, local databases, externally accessed databases, CD-ROM, recorded magnetic or optical media, clip art, digital images, digitized information, communications technologies, and new technologies as they become available. Stand-alone workstations are also governed by this acceptable use procedure.

The School District Services

The School District provides resources for teaching and learning, communication services, and business data services by maintaining access to local, regional, national, and international sources of information. The School District information resources will be used by members of the school community with respect for the public trust through which they have been provided and in accordance with policy and regulations established by the School District. These procedures do not attempt to articulate all required for proscribed behavior by its users.

Successful operation of the network requires that all users conduct themselves in a responsible, decent, ethical and polite manner while using the network. The user is ultimately responsible for his/her actions in accessing network services.

Guidelines

1. Access to the networks and to the information technology environment within the District is a privilege and must be treated as such by all users of the network and its associated systems.
2. Information networks will be used for the purposes of research, education, and school-related business and operations.
3. Any system which requires password access or for which the District requires an account, such as the Internet, will only be used by the authorized user. Account owners are ultimately responsible for all activity under their accounts.
4. The resources of the District are limited. All users must exercise prudence in the shared use of this resource.

Unacceptable Use

The District has the right to take disciplinary action, remove computer and networking privileges

and/or take legal action, for any activity characterized as unethical and unacceptable. Unacceptable use activities constitute, but are not limited to, any activity through which any user:

1. Violates such matters as institutional or third-party copyright, license agreements or other contracts. The unauthorized use of and/or copying of software is illegal.
2. Interferes with or disrupts other network users, services or equipment. Disruptions include, but are not limited to: distribution of unsolicited advertising, propagation of computer worms or viruses, distributing quantities of information that overwhelm the system, and/or using a District network to make unauthorized entry into any other resource accessible via the network.
3. Seeks to gain or gains unauthorized access to information resources.
4. Uses or knowingly allows another to use any computer or computer system to devise or execute a scheme to defraud or to obtain money, property, services, or other things of value by false pretenses, promises, or representations.
5. Destroys, alters, dismantles or otherwise interferes with the integrity of computer based information and/or information resources.
6. Invades the privacy of individuals or entities.
7. Uses the network for commercial or political activity.
8. Installs unauthorized software for use on District computers.
9. Uses a network to access inappropriate materials.
10. Submits, publishes or displays any defamatory, inaccurate, racially offensive, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, or threatening materials or messages either publicly or privately.
11. Uses a District network for illegal harassing, vandalizing, inappropriate or obscene purposes, or in support of such activities.

#### School District Rights

The District reserves the right to:

1. Monitor all activity. Notwithstanding any related laws, staff members have no expectation of privacy regarding their use on the school district computer network.
2. Make determinations on whether specific uses of a network are consistent with these acceptable use procedures.
3. Log network use and monitor storage disk space utilization by users.
4. Determine what is appropriate use.
5. Remove a user's access to the network at any time it is determined that the user engaged in unauthorized activity or violated these acceptable use procedures.
6. Cooperate fully with any investigation concerning or relating to the District's network activity.

### School District Internet Code of Conduct

Use of the Internet by students and staff of the District shall be in support of education and research that is consistent with the mission of the District. Internet use is limited to those persons who have been issued District-approved accounts. Use will be in accordance with the District's Acceptable Use Procedures and this Code of Conduct. Users are expected to abide by the following terms and conditions:

1. Protect their Internet log from others.
2. Respect the privacy of other users. Do not use other users' passwords.
3. Be ethical and courteous. Do not send hate, harassing or obscene mail, discriminatory remarks, or demonstrate other antisocial behaviors.
4. Maintain the integrity of files and data. Do not modify or copy files/data of other users without their consent.
5. Treat information created by others as the private property of the creator. Respect copyrights.
6. Use any network in a way that does not disrupt its use by others.
7. Do not destroy, modify or abuse the hardware or software in any way.
8. Do not develop or pass on programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computing system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system, such as viruses, worms, "chain" messages, etc.
9. Do not use the Internet to access or process pornographic or otherwise inappropriate material.
10. Do not use the Internet for commercial purposes.

The District reserves the right to remove a user's account if it is determined that the user is engaged in unauthorized activity or is violating this code of conduct.

### School District Internet Access Release Form

As a condition of my right to use the School District network resources, including access to the Internet, staff members understand and agree to the following:

1. To abide by the District Acceptable Use Procedures and Code of Conduct.
2. That District administrators and designated staff have the right to review, edit and/or delete any material stored on District computers, which they believe, in their sole discretion, may be unlawful, obscene, abusive, or otherwise objectionable. Staff members hereby waive any right of privacy which they may otherwise have to such material.
3. That the School District will not be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages due to information gained and/or obtained via use of the District's network resources.
4. That the School District does not warrant that the functions of any District network, or

any network accessible through District resources, will meet any specific requirements you may have, or that the network resources will be error-free or uninterrupted.

5. That the School District shall not be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages (including lost data or information) sustained or incurred in connection with the use, operation, or inability to use District networks and resources.

6. That the use of the District network(s), including access to public networks, is a privilege which may be revoked by network administrators at any time for violation of the Acceptable Use Procedures and Code of Conduct. The School District will be the sole arbiter(s) of what constitutes violation of the Acceptable Use Procedures or Code of Conduct.

7. In consideration for the privilege of using the School District network resources and in consideration for having access to the public networks, I hereby release the School District, its operators, and any institutions with which they are affiliated from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my use, or inability to use, the District network resources.

Name of User/Staff Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

School of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

Position of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I have read the Acceptable Use Policy and Procedures; that I fully understand their terms and conditions; and that I will abide by the terms conditions set forth in those document.

Signature of User/Staff Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Building Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*See Policy GBEF*

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