

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

In order to match electronic resources as closely as possible to the approved system curriculum, system personnel will review and evaluate resources in order to offer home pages and menus of materials which comply with Board guidelines governing the selection of instructional materials. In this manner, staff will provide developmentally appropriate guidance to students as they make use of telecommunications and electronic information resources to conduct research and other studies related to the system curriculum. All students will be informed by staff of their rights and responsibilities as users of the district network prior to gaining access to that network, either as an individual or as a member of a class or group.

The school, either by itself or in combination with the Data Acquisition Site providing Internet access, will utilize filtering software or other technologies to prevent students from accessing visual depictions that are either (i)obscene,(ii)child pornography, or (iii)harmful to minors. The school will also monitor the online activities of students, through direct observation and/or technological means, to ensure that students are not accessing such depictions or any other material which is inappropriate for minors.

As much as possible, access to system information resources will be designed in ways which point students to those which have been reviewed and evaluated prior to use. While students may be able to move beyond those resources to others which have not been evaluated by staff, they will be provided with guidelines and lists of resources particularly suited to the learning objectives. Students may pursue electronic research independent of staff supervision only if they have been granted parental permission and have submitted all required forms. Permission is not transferable and may not be shared.

INTERNET RULES

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Independent access to network services is provided to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parent permission is required for minors. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility.

Individual users of the system computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications over those networks. It is presumed that users will comply with system standards and will honor the agreements they have signed.

Network and Internet access is provided as a tool for a student's education. Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. The school district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store at any time and without prior notice any and all usage of the computer network and Internet access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such information files shall be and remain the property of the school district and no user shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

The following are not permitted:

- < Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- < Using obscene language
- < Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- < Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks
- < Violating copyright laws
- < Using others passwords
- < Trespassing in others folders, work, or files
- < Intentionally wasting limited resources
- < Employing the network for commercial purposes

INTERNET SAFETY

General Warning: Individual Responsibility of Parents and Users.

All users and their parents/guardians are advised that access to the electronic network may include the potential for access to materials inappropriate for school-aged students.

Every user must take responsibility for his or her use of the computer network or Internet and stay away from these sites. Parents of minors are the best guide to materials to avoid. If a student finds that other users are visiting offensive or harmful sites, he or she should report such use to the teacher in charge or an administrator.

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Personal Safety. Be safe. In using the computer network and Internet, do not reveal personal information such as your home address or telephone number. Do not use your real last name or any other information which might allow a person to locate you without first obtaining the permission of a supervising teacher. Do not arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you meet on

the computer network or Internet without your parent's permission (if you are under 18). Regardless of your age, you should never agree to meet a person you have only communicated with on the Internet in a secluded place or in a private setting.

Hacking and Other Illegal Activities. It is a violation of these guidelines to use the school's computer network or the Internet to gain unauthorized access to other computers or computer systems, or to attempt to gain such unauthorized access. Any use which violates state or federal law relating to copyright, trade secrets, the distribution of obscene or pornographic materials, or which violates any other applicable law or municipal ordinance, is strictly prohibited.

Confidentiality of Student Information. Personally identifiable information concerning students may not be disclosed or used in any way on the Internet without the permission of a parent or guardian or, if the student is 18 or over, the permission of the student himself/herself. Users should never give out private or confidential information about themselves or others on the Internet such as home addresses, home telephone numbers, or particularly credit card numbers or Social Security numbers.

SANCTIONS

The user's use of the computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right. A user who violates these procedures may, at a minimum, have his or her access to the computer network or Internet terminated, which the school district may refuse to reinstate for the remainder of the student's enrollment in the school district. A user violates the user agreement by his or her own action or by assisting another user in violating these procedures or by concealing another user's involvement in such activities. Further, if passwords are assigned, a user violates the user agreement if he or she permits another to use his or her account or password to access the computer network and Internet, including any user whose access has been denied or terminated.

The school district may also take other disciplinary action in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate language or behavior. When appropriate, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

BREMEN CITY SCHOOLS, BREMEN, GA