

Woonsocket Education Department
INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE AND USE:

1. The use of the Internet has been provided to teachers and students as a tool of educational application. Use of the Internet for illegal, commercial, or unethical actions is strictly prohibited. All illegal activities such as transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to; copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret.
2. The Technology Committee, School Administration, and/or the School Committee reserves the right to place reasonable restrictions on any material accessible throughout the Woonsocket School Area Network and the Internet deemed 'educationally unacceptable. The use of the Internet must be for educational and research activities and be consistent with the educational objectives of the Woonsocket Education Department. All students and personnel of the Woonsocket School Department take full responsibility for his or her own actions in regards to the use and handling of technology and the use of the Internet, network and email. The Woonsocket School Department complies with CIPA, the Children Information Protection Act. CIPA requires that schools and libraries that receive specific federal funds must certify to the funding agency that they have in place an Internet Safety Policy. This policy blocks access to obscenity, child pornography, or material harmful to minors. This policy also prohibits hacking, chat rooms, e-mail safety, disclosure of personal information concerning children, and unlawful activities of children online in accordance with all elements and regulations of CIPA.

ACCEPTABLE USE: PERSONAL SAFETY

1. Student personal information (including, but not limited to; names, phone numbers, addresses, etc.) will not be entered, transmitted, or posted over the Internet without prior written authorization by school administration.
2. Students will never agree to meet someone they have met on-line without parental written approval. Parents who agree to such a meeting are responsible for arranging appropriate supervision.
3. The computer operator will not use the network or the Internet in such a way to disrupt access by others (such as downloading huge files, sending mass email messages, or annoying/harassing other users). Respect the privacy of other users - all communications and information should be assumed to be private property.

COMPUTER SYSTEM SAFETY

1. Unauthorized access to 'educationally unacceptable' areas of the network, both within the Woonsocket Wide Area Network and the Internet, is not permitted.
2. The computer user will immediately notify a Lab Coordinator or System Administrator of possible security risks.
3. The computer user will not download information over the Internet without the consent and guidance of a Lab Coordinator or System Administrator.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

1. The computer user will not use vulgar or other inappropriate language within the Woonsocket Area Network or the Internet.
2. The computer user will not post false or misleading information about any person or organization. The computer user will not use the network and the Internet to access, create, or publish material; that is profane or obscene (pornography), that advocates illegal acts, that advocates violence or discrimination toward people or organizations, or that is not within the scope of educational use.
3. The computer user will not attempt to locate or request inappropriate material from the Internet. The Internet has many sites, locations, and material. New material is being created every day. Because of these reasons it is possible for some material to escape the filtering system of the Woonsocket School Department. If a computer user should happen to find this material he or she is to notify a teacher, administrator of the Technology Department immediately.

VIOLATION OF THE POLICY

If a user is found to be in violation of any of the statements detailed in the above mentioned policy, all network Internet rights and privileges will be suspended until an investigation is conducted. Upon completion of the investigation, a decision will be given by the Building Administrator(s) to revoke or reinstate the computer user's privileges. Such violations may also result in further disciplinary measures or legal actions.

LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

The Woonsocket School Department will make every effort to screen all material available on the Internet, however, it is possible for some of the vast amount of inappropriate information on the Internet to reach the computer user. All terms and conditions as stated in this document are applicable to the Woonsocket Education Department, Woonsocket RI. These terms and conditions shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the City of Woonsocket and the State of Rhode Island, United States of America.