

Electronic Technology: Acceptable Use Policy

The purpose of the General Brown Central School District-Level and Wide Area Networks, and Internet Access Network is to advance and promote education in all its school buildings within the District. It is intended to assist in the collaboration and exchange of information among all who are concerned and involved with education. The goal of infusing technology into daily operations of our classrooms, libraries, and offices is to promote high quality technological resources in an equitable, efficient and cost effective manner. Such technology includes and is not limited to electronic mail, local computer networks, the Internet, and other online services.



The benefit of being connected to the Internet and other on-line services is that it expands classroom teaching dramatically by making many fascinating resources, including original source materials from all over the world, available to students, teachers, parents and administrators. These services bring information, data, images, and even computer software into the classroom from places around the globe, and it does this almost instantaneously.

Access to these resources can involve students in individual and group projects, cross-cultural collaborations, and idea-sharing not found in schools that lack Internet and on-line services access.

While the benefits of the Internet and other on-line services are enormous, parents need to be aware that they are open systems which contain pockets of material that many people would disapprove of and keep away from children. The General Brown Central School District will make an effort to prevent student's access to inappropriate materials on the Internet and other on-line services, but we cannot guarantee that they will not encounter text, pictures, or references that are objectionable. The District asks parents for assistance in developing responsible attitudes, reinforcing appropriate behaviors, and observing security practices on the network. System users should have no expectation of privacy with respect to files saved or maintained on the District's computer systems. Network administrators and District officials will have access to all files in order to ensure system integrity and compliance with this policy.

Access to these resources can involve students in individual and group projects, cross-cultural collaborations, and idea-sharing not found in schools that lack Internet access.

The use of the Local Area Network, Wide Area Network, and Internet is a privilege, not a right. Users are responsible for what they say and do on the networks. Because communications with thousands of others is so quick and widespread, it is important to think before communicating to others and to show respect for other people and for their ideas. The use of computers must be in support of education and research, and consistent with the educational objectives and the Mission Statement of the General Brown Central School District. Use of the General Brown District's network or that of another organization's connected network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for each network.

It is imperative that staff, students and visitors conduct themselves in a responsible, decent, ethical, and polite manner while using such equipment and networks. This policy does not attempt to articulate all required or proscribed behavior by its users.

NOTE: Explicit acceptable Internet use is defined in the *General Brown Central School District Internet Safety Policy*, which is an extension of this policy.

The following general guidelines are provided to illustrate appropriate conduct and use. This is not an exhaustive list, but rather indicative of the type of conduct which will be considered acceptable by the district:

The benefit of being connected to the Internet is that it expands classroom teaching dramatically by making many fascinating resources, including original source materials from all over the world, available to students, teachers, and parents.



A. Any use of General Brown Central School District equipment or information networks for inappropriate, illegal, obscene or sexual harassment purposes is prohibited. Illegal activities shall be defined as a violation of local, state and/or federal laws, as well as the District's rules and regulations. Inappropriate use shall be defined as a violation of the intended purpose of the network. Obscene activities shall be defined as a violation of generally accepted social standards for use of a publicly-owned and operated communication vehicle;

B. Any use of the district's equipment for commercial purposes, or for individual profit or gain, or unauthorized access to databanks is prohibited;

C. Any use of equipment for private business advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited;

D. Any use of the district's equipment that will disrupt other users or invade the privacy of individuals is prohibited;

E. The district's on-line network accounts are to be used only by authorized students and staff approved by the Building Principal. Users are ultimately responsible for all activity under their operating or individual accounts, which includes but is not limited to necessary long distance charges, per minute (unit) surcharges and/or equipment or line costs, liability or damages caused by users who misuse the equipment, software or networks;

F. Prudent use of the district's finite resources and shared technological resources is expected. Users may not intentionally write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code designed to self replicate (e.g. computer virus), damage or otherwise hinder the performance of any computer's memory, file system or software;

G. Only approved hardware is to be connected to the network. Similarly, student and staff software must be approved by the administration of the district. Users may not tamper with

networks, terminals, printers, wiring, etc.;

H. Students, staff, parents and administration must agree not to give out student records, personnel information, confidential records, internal financial data or personal information to unauthorized receivers;

I. Any user's traffic that traverses another network's will be subject to that network's acceptable use policy;

J. As applicable, student use will be permitted provided there is parent notification and administrative authorization, and proper supervision is maintained by the staff;

K. District users must recognize and observe applicable copyright laws and regulations. Unauthorized duplication or other forms of infringement of copyright materials is prohibited;

L. Students who leave or graduate and staff who leave the employ of the district may not maintain a network account or have access to district equipment;

M. Each building administrator shall have the first level of responsibility to review alleged infractions and to determine appropriate action. The Superintendent shall receive a report on any incident and the results of the administrator's investigations;

N. The Superintendent of Schools for the General Brown Central School District shall remain the final authority on the issuance of user accounts and on use of the networks.

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You can contact us on the web at:
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