

NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT COMPUTER USE AGREEMENT

Notification/Authorization

The District's Acceptable Use Policy and accompanying Regulations will be disseminated to parents and students in order to provide notice of the school's requirements, expectations, and student's obligations when accessing the DCS.

Student use of the DCS is conditioned upon written agreement by all students and their parents/guardians that student use of the DCS will conform to the requirements of this policy and any regulations adopted to ensure acceptable use of the DCS. All such agreements shall be kept on file in the School Office.

Regulations will be established, as necessary, to implement the terms of this policy.

Expectations of students include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Student Personal Safety

- a. All student computer use must be supervised.
- b. Guidelines for Publication of Student Work on the Net

The District is obligated to protect the privacy of its students from outsiders. Therefore, when District employees publish student work through use of the District Network Access, the following guidelines shall be followed:

1. First name or initials shall identify students. No personally identifiable information about students shall be published.
2. Pictures of students shall not provide information identifying any student.
3. Student phone numbers, home addresses, and e-mail addresses shall not be published.
4. The only address, phone number, or e-mail address, which may be published, is that of the school in care of the sponsoring teacher or the teacher's e-mail address at school.
5. If personally identifiable information is to be released concerning a particular student, it will only be released after the parent signs a consent form to allow the release.

2. Illegal or Destructive Activities

- a. Students shall not go beyond their authorized access to the District network or other computer equipment or software including the files or accounts of others.
- b. Students shall not disrupt or attempt to damage or disrupt any computer, system, system performance, or data.
- c. Students shall not use District equipment to engage in illegal acts.

3. System Security

- a. Students are responsible for the security of their computer equipment, files, and passwords.
- b. Students shall promptly notify a teacher of security problems.

4. Inappropriate Conduct

The following conduct is prohibited when using any technical resource:

- a. Obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, or disrespectful language;
- b. Potentially damaging, dangerous, or disruptive material;
- c. Personal or generalized harassment in violation of District policies; and
- d. False or defamatory information.

5. Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement

- a. Works may not be plagiarized.
- b. The rights of copyright owners are to be respected. Copyright infringement occurs when an individual inappropriately reproduces a work that is protected by copyright. If a student is unsure whether or not a work can be used, the copyright owner should be contacted for permission.
- c. Software copyrights and software licenses must be strictly respected.

6. Inappropriate Access to Material

- a. Technical resources shall not be used with material that is profane, obscene (pornographic), or advocates illegal acts, violence, or discrimination.
- b. Personal messages are not permitted. Students shall not use the District access to the Internet (including e-mail), nor shall they use any District

- created or District related web site to advertise any private commercial ventures in which they have a financial or proprietary interest, or in which members of their families have financial or proprietary interests.
- c. The use of Internet games, web chats, unauthorized software, or other instant messaging software (e.g. AOL Instant Messenger, etc.) is prohibited except when specifically authorized by the District Superintendent (or designee).
 - d. Inadvertent inappropriate access shall be reported immediately to a student's teacher.

7. Expectation of Privacy

- a. Students have no expectation of privacy in files, disks, or documents that have been created in, entered in, stored in, downloaded from, or used on District equipment or resources.

8. Services and Assumption of Risks

- a. Niagara Falls City School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for services provided and is not responsible for any damages suffered while on the system to include loss of data and inaccurate or poor quality information obtained from the system. Users are responsible for backing up data stored on the hard drive of any computer assigned to them.

9. Discipline

- a. Students who engage in unacceptable use may lose access to the District Computer System and may be subject to further discipline under the law or in accordance with the School Code of Conduct.
- b. Deliberate violations of this agreement (e.g., malicious acts or omissions; searching for, viewing or otherwise visiting pornographic or sexually explicit sites) are cause for disciplinary action.

10. Unacceptable Uses

The following uses will be regarded as not acceptable:

- a. Illegal or malicious use, including downloading or transmitting of copyright material.
- b. Use of racial, sexual, or other harassment in violation of district policy.
- c. To access, view, or transmit pornographic or obscene material.

- d. To solicit personal information with the intent of using such information to cause emotional or physical harm.
- e. To disrupt the work of other users. This includes the propagation of computer viruses and use of the Internet to make unauthorized entry to any other Internet resource.
- f. Use for private commercial purposes.
- g. To promote political views.
- h. For personal use, for example, plan vacations, check personal stocks, gamble, casual surfing of the web, and on-line personal shopping, to name a few.

11. Etiquette

The following general principles should be adopted:

- a. Be polite; do not be abusive in messages to others.
- b. Use appropriate language. Remember that you are a student representative of Niagara Falls City School District and that you are using a public network.
- c. Do not disrupt the use of the Internet for other users.

12. District Hardware and Software

- a. Students assigned District hardware must take care of the equipment, ensuring its security when not in use. Students will be charged for damage to District hardware if it is determined care was not exercised. This includes laptops, printers, PDAs, ipods or any other electronic hardware issued to the student.
- b. Only approved District software may be loaded on the District equipment.
- c. Only District owned or leased equipment will be permitted to run on the DCS. All unauthorized equipment will be confiscated.