

440 Internet/ E-mail Policy

440.01 The Oregon School District provides Internet access from its campus network to students, staff and board members

440.02 Providing Internet access is an important part of preparing District students for the future. This goal includes the following objectives:

- Provide access to global educational resources for class assignment
- Provide e-mail services to improve communication skills
- Provide access to enter learning partnerships to expand educational opportunities
- Improve the development and broadening of research skills
- Improve decision-making skills
- Develop higher levels of thinking
- Develop skills to differentiate and evaluate the value of resources
- Gain skills needed for the 21st century employment

440.03 Students and parents should be aware that some materials available on the Internet could be objectionable, illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While the District believes that the benefits to students from access to the Internet outweighs the risk of access to such material, parents and guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. The District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for a student's access.

440.04 The District shares responsibility for control over access of inappropriate Internet materials. In light of that responsibility, the District utilizes hardware and software that is designed to filter and block inappropriate sites and high risk activities. The District reserves the right to block sites that do not enhance classroom activities. This filtering will at a minimum meet the requirement of the Children's Internet Protection Act to provide protection from obscene, pornographic and other materials considered harmful to minors.

The use of filtering hardware and software is not infallible. Objectionable material may be accessed notwithstanding our efforts to block such content. The use of an Internet filter does not diminish the user's personal responsibility to use the network in conformance with the standards in this policy.

440.05 Students in K-4 will have access to Internet resources only when supervised by a staff member. Students in grades 5 through 12 will be required to return a signed parental permission form before access is granted. Students are responsible for the ethical and educational use of their own Internet account. These accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purposes as enumerated in 440.02 above.

440.06 Access is a privilege, not a right. The following activities are not permitted and will result in the immediate loss of internet access and other building level disciplinary actions when discovered:

- Downloading, displaying, viewing, accessing or attempting to access, storing or transmitting any images, cartoons, messages or materials which are obscene or sexually explicit;
- Downloading, displaying, viewing, accessing or attempting to access, storing or transmitting any images, cartoons, messages or material which that may be construed as threatening, harassing, offensive or intimidating to others based upon gender, race, national origin, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation or any other basis protected by applicable law;
- Unreasonable personal use or personal use that interferes with the employee's or other district user's performance of his/her duties or which otherwise disrupts the operations of the district. Included in this prohibition includes use of chat rooms, Internet Relay Chat, hot mail or list serves or groups not pre-approved by the District. Personal e-mail is also prohibited unless such e-mail is needed for curricular-based classroom activities.
- Use for commercial, political or advocacy purposes;
- Use which is illegal, including the violation of copyright, defamation, gambling and pornography laws;
- Damaging any component of the District's computer hardware or software;
- Intentionally wasting limited access time or occupying excessive file storage space;
- Unauthorized accessing or attempting to access confidential District information, including personnel records, medical records and financial information pertaining to the district or any of its employees or students;
- Unauthorized accessing or attempting to access another employee's or student's password, data, messages or other electronic communication's materials;
- Posting private information about the student or any other person, including but not limited to addresses, telephone numbers, identification numbers, account numbers, passwords or access codes;
- Re-posting a message that was sent to the user without permission of the person who sent the message;
- Any use that is inconsistent with the school's Code of Conduct;

440.07 Violations may result in the following actions:

1. Parent notification.
2. Conference with an administrator.
3. Access restrictions
4. Removal from computer access for remainder of year.
5. Student discipline as outlined in student handbook and Board policy.

440.08 The District's computer network is the sole property of the District. All electronic communications transmitted by, received from or stored in the District's network are owned by the District. Students should have no expectation of privacy with regard to the use of the District's network or information, messages, files and other data stored on these systems. The District may access, search, monitor and/or disclose to appropriate authorities any communication at any time without prior notice being

given. Nothing residing in a student's computer system or files or the District's e-mail system will be deemed personal, private or confidential.

440.09 If a user inadvertently becomes connected to a site that contains any material with prohibited content, the user must disconnect from that site immediately and inform a staff member of the incident. A user is encouraged to inform a staff member if the student becomes aware that another user is accessing or has accessed prohibited material.

Legal reference: Sections 120.13 (1)
Wisconsin Statutes 943.70
947.0125
PL 94-553, Federal Copyright Law

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