

INTERNET USE POLICY

The Bennington Board of Education believes that the use of the Internet and other local and/or wide networks will further education by promoting the exchange of information and ideas and by providing intra-and-inter-district, statewide, national, and global opportunities for staff, students, and the community. Students will be able to access the Internet under the supervision of their teachers. Individual students, employee, and patron accounts and E-mail addresses will not be provided, and the user will not be permitted to use the address to send and receive mail at school.

Since the Internet constitutes an unregulated collection of educational resources, which change constantly, it is not possible to predict or control exactly what resources users may locate. The school district makes no guarantees of the accuracy of the information or the appropriateness of materials, which a student may encounter. Students will be under teacher supervision; however, it is not possible to constantly monitor individual students and what they are accessing. Students and other users will refrain from intentionally accessing and downloading any text, picture, or on-line conferencing that includes material which is considered to be obscene, libelous, indecent, vulgar, profane, or lewd, advertises any product or service to minors prohibited by law, presents a clear or present danger, or will cause the commission of unlawful acts or the violation of lawful school regulation. Users will not solicit or receive any information or service, which could result in unauthorized expense to the district.

Users will be courteous and polite. Messages will be concise and not abusive in content or language. Personal information should not be revealed. Records of Internet use will be considered confidential; however, users must be aware that others may access any message or information posted on the Internet for who it is not intended. E-mail and downloaded materials will be deleted from the system on a regularly scheduled basis.

Users of the services will respect all copyright and license agreements. Copyrighted software, pictures, or music will not be downloaded for use, which violate copyright laws.

Staff, students, and the community must agree to attend an orientation, which will address the issues of appropriate use of the school network, Internet, copyright laws, Internet etiquette, and fees (if any) incurred during the use of these services. All persons wishing to use the services provided by the school district will sign an Internet/Computer Network use agreement.

Violation of the Internet/Computer Network Acceptable Use Policy will result in forfeiture of all user privileges. Violators shall also be subject to appropriate disciplinary action. Pending investigation into a student/staff complaint of inappropriate use of the networks, user's privileges will be suspended.

The district shall not be liable of users' inappropriate use of electronic communication resources or violations of copyright restrictions, users' mistakes or negligence, or costs incurred by users. The district shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy or usability or any information found on the Internet.

In addition to the rules stated above: **Student use of school computers to send/receive personal e-mail is strictly prohibited. Student use of school computers for chatting (chat rooms) purposes is strictly prohibited.** Violation of this policy will result in forfeiture of all user privileges.



**"I HAVE READ THE BENNINGTON SCHOOL
INTERNET POLICY"**

I agree to abide by the above stated rules/regulations:

Student's Name

Date

Parent/Guardian's Name

Date