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# BLIND BROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## **ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

### ***Terms and Conditions for Student Use of the Internet, District Network and Technology for Grades 6-12***

Adopted 06-09-97    Revised 03-05-12

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#### **Introduction**

The Blind Brook-Rye School District is pleased to offer its students, faculty and staff access to the Internet. The Internet, a global electronic information infrastructure, is a connection of networks used by educators, business, government, the military and other organizations. The Board of Education strongly believes in the value of telecommunications and recognizes the potential of such to support our curriculum, students, faculty and staff.

The Internet is a fluid environment. In general, electronic traffic passes freely in a trusting atmosphere. But with such access comes the availability of material that may not be appropriate in a school setting. It is our goal to provide users with the understanding and skills needed to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use information to meet their educational objectives.

This policy is designed to facilitate and set guidelines for exploring and using the Internet, the district network applications and web based instructional and research tools, in a responsible, ethical and legal manner. Of necessity, it places the primary responsibility for proper conduct on the user. Use of the School District's local network and Internet facilities in contravention of the following guidelines will result in cancellation of the user's account as determined by a building administrator and possible legal intervention when applicable.

#### **Terms and Conditions for Student Use**

A. I understand and agree to abide by the following Rules and Code of Ethics regarding Internet, District Network and Internet web based instructional and research use:

1. The use of a user's account must be for research in support of education, consistent with the objectives of the Blind Brook-Rye School District.
2. Network accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for authorized purposes. Using or sharing another user's login name and password is prohibited.
3. Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users.
4. No use of the network shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by others; hardware or software shall not be destroyed, modified, copied, damaged, or abused in any way. Nor shall the network be used in any way that intends to disrupt operation of the network or use of the network by others.
5. Malicious use of the Internet or the network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computer system (e.g., create viruses) is prohibited.
6. Hate mail, harassment, profanity, obscenity, discriminatory remarks, misrepresentation, impersonation, and/or other similar behavior are prohibited on the Internet and the network.
7. Intentional uses of the Internet or the network to access or process pornographic material, text files unrelated to course work or academic research, materials for use in illegal activities, or files dangerous to the operating integrity of the network and its users

- are prohibited.
8. Exemplary behavior is expected on "virtual" field trips, as the user is representing the Blind Brook-Rye School District when visiting locations on the Internet.
  9. Users shall not reveal anything that would enable others to locate or exploit them, e.g., last name, home address, credit card, photos of themselves/others or social security number. Similarly, users shall not reveal such information about others over the Internet.
  10. Students without parental permission to use the Internet are prohibited from teaming up with those who have permission to use the Internet.
  11. Use of the Internet, network or district web based e-mail tool to hack into other users accounts is prohibited.
  12. Use of the Internet or the network for commercial or for-profit purposes is prohibited.
  13. Use of the Internet or the network for product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited.
  14. Each user is responsible for his/her own actions while using the Internet or the network.
  15. The use of Cell Phone text messaging during an exam or during instructional time is prohibited.
  16. The use of a Pager text messaging during an exam or during instructional time is prohibited.
  17. If a graphing calculator must be used, students shall show the instructor that they have reset their calculator prior to the start of an exam.
  18. PDA/PC's shall be turned off during exams.

B. I recognize and agree to abide by the following Rules and Code of Ethics regarding protected by intellectual property rights, including copyrighted material:

1. I recognize that material received via the Internet or a computer network is owned by the author or the person holding the copyright and/or other intellectual property rights, and I will give full credit for all materials received electronically.
2. I recognize that software is protected by copyright laws; therefore, I will not make copies of software found on school computers either by copying them onto my own diskettes, CD's or onto other computers through electronic mail or bulletin boards; and I will not give, lend, or sell copies of software to others unless I have the written permission of the copyright owner or unless the original software is clearly identified as shareware or in the public domain. Attributions of authorship will follow the same copyright rules for material obtained via the network.
3. I recognize that electronic copyrighted text is protected by copyright laws; therefore, I will not cut and paste or photograph electronically with my cell phone this copyrighted text into my reports, take home exams, or school related documents without correctly referencing the copyrighted source. Attributions of authorship will follow the same copyright rules for material obtained via the network.

I understand and agree that any violation of the above will have serious consequences. Any violation of District policy and rules may result in loss of District-provided access to the Internet and network access. Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in keeping with existing procedures and practices regarding inappropriate language and behavior. Legal intervention may occur when applicable, including, but not limited to cases of network tampering, hacking and intentional equipment theft or damage.

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BLIND BROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY  
AGREEMENT FORM FOR GRADES 6-12**

*Please return this form to the school main office. Students who do not return this form will not have computer access at school. PARENTS and STUDENTS must sign this form.*

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**Student User Agreement**

I have read the Acceptable Use Policy in the Family Guidebook. I understand and will abide by the terms for use of the Internet and the Blind Brook-Rye School District's computer system and other technology. I recognize and agree to abide by the district's Rules and Code of Ethics regarding copyrighted materials and plagiarism. I further understand that any violation of the terms and conditions is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked and school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken. The School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The School District will not be responsible for any damage suffered including loss of data.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

User's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Agreement**

I have read and discussed with my child the terms of the Internet and the Blind Brook-Rye School District's computer system as stated in the Family Guidebook. I recognize it is impossible for the School District to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. The School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The School District will not be responsible for any damage suffered including loss of data. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child.

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_