CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT POLICY

Internet access is available to the District's students and community members. Through its computer network, the District is connected with thousands of computers all over the world. Users may have access to information ranging from different cultures, science related issues, music, politics, and access to many university library catalogs. These are just some of the areas users may be able to explore through the computer network.

Students utilizing school-provided Internet access are responsible for good behavior on-line, just as they are in a classroom or other areas of the school. The same general rules for behavior and communications apply. The District may provide filtering software for computers accessing the Internet.

The purpose of the District-provided Internet access is to facilitate communications in support of research and education. To remain eligible as users, students' use must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives of the District. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility.

Privacy/Confidentiality

Users should have no expectation of privacy or confidentiality in the content of electronic communications or other computer files sent and received on the school computer network or stored in his/her directory. The school computer network's system operator, or other school employees, may at any time review the subject, content, and appropriateness of electronic communications or other computer files and remove them if warranted. Any violation of District rules will be reported to school administrators.

Copyright

Users shall not:
1. Copy and forward;
2. Copy and download; or
3. Copy and upload

to the network or Internet server any copyrighted material, without approval by the computer system operator, a teacher, or other school administrator. Copyrighted material is anything written by someone else, such as an e-mail message, a game, a story, or software. Plagiarism is not allowed.

Inappropriate Sites

The use of the District network and the Internet is for educational purposes only. All sites containing pornography or sexually explicit materials (written or pictured) are off limits to users.

E-mail/Chatting

Students are prohibited from using e-mail, including District e-mail accessed through a web browser. E-mail access may be given to students on a case-by-case basis (e.g., foreign exchange students keeping in contact with home). Students are prohibited from joining chat rooms, unless it is a teacher-sponsored activity.

Hacking

Users shall not infiltrate or "hack" outside computing systems or networks. Examples: the release of viruses, worms, or other programs that damage or otherwise harm an outside computing system or network. Users shall not disrupt a system or interfere with another's ability to use that system (e.g., by sending "e-mail bombs" that cause a disk to fill up, a network to bog down, or a software application to crash). Nor shall users do any of these things to the District computer system.

Inappropriate Use

Users shall not use the District computer network to:
1. Purchase goods, solicit sales, or conduct business (e.g., by posting an advertisement to a news group). Users shall not set up web pages to advertise or sell a service.
2. Transmit obscene, abusive, sexually explicit, inappropriate, or threatening language.

GALLATIN GATEWAY CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT POLICY CONTRACT
Acceptable Use

Parents and Students:

Please read together and after signing, return this document to the school.

Statement of Purpose:
The District believes that all students should have access to technology when they act in a responsible, efficient, courteous and legal manner. Internet access and other online services, available to student and teachers, offer a multitude of global resources. Our goal in providing these services is to enhance the educational development of our students.

Acceptable uses of technology are devoted to activities that support teaching and learning. The following are our agreements about the use of technology in District schools:

Terms of Agreement
Using the computer correctly and responsibly is very important. I promise to follow these rules:
1. I promise to use all computer equipment carefully and not damage, change or tamper with the hardware, software, settings or the network.
2. I promise to use the computer and the Internet for schoolwork only. I will use only the programs and websites that my teacher has approved.
3. I promise to print only when my teacher tells me to print.
4. I promise to use my own file or my own folder on the student server.
5. I will not view, send or display inappropriate messages or pictures.
6. I promise never to use any form of electronic communication I to harass, frighten or bully anyone while at school.
7. I promise to tell a staff member if I read or see something on the computer that is inappropriate.
8. I promise to obey copyright laws.
9. I understand that if I break any of my promises, I might lose my computer privileges.

Use of New Web Tools
As part of 21st century learning, teachers and students may be using new web tools such as blogs, wikis, podcasts and videocasts. These technologies improve students' communication and collaboration skills, provide a real audience and extend learning beyond the classroom walls while building digital citizenship skills. At some point during the school year, you may be asked to sign additional permission forms regarding the use of new web tools.

I will sign my name to show I understand and will follow the rules.

Student Name (print) _____

Student Signature _____

Homeroom Teacher _____   Grade _____   Date Signed _____

I have read this Acceptable Use Agreement and have discussed it with my child:

Parent/Guardian Name (print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____   Date Signed _____