

**Internet and Computer Acceptable Use Policy
Barrington Public Schools**

Policy

The School Committee supports access by students to the rich educational resources available on the Internet. In order to match electronic resources as closely as possible to the approved district curriculum, district personnel will review and evaluate resources and materials that support instruction. In this manner, staff will provide developmentally appropriate guidance to students as they make use of telecommunications and electronic information resources to conduct research and other studies related to the district curriculum. All students will be informed by staff of their rights and responsibilities as users of the district network prior to gaining access to that network, either as an individual user or as a member of a class or group. As much as possible, access to district information resources will be designed in ways, which point students to those that have been reviewed and evaluated prior to use. While students may be able to move beyond those resources to others, which staff, has not evaluated, they shall be provided with guidelines and lists of resources particularly suited to the learning objectives. Students may pursue electronic research independent of staff supervision only if they have been granted parental permission and have submitted all required forms. Permission is not transferable and may not be shared.

Filtering

The Internet will be filtered, in accordance with Childrens' Internet Protection Act, to limit users to educationally appropriate sites, as determined by the School Administration. At the same time, we are aware that material on the Internet is uncensored and we can make no guarantee that information found on the Internet will be valuable, reliable or inoffensive.

Acceptable Use

Acceptable use of Computers and related devices (Computers), Networks, Network Equipment and Internet Access is any use, which is consistent with the educational objectives of the Barrington Public Schools. The Internet offers a wealth of information, the opportunity for the exchange of ideas and information, and the possibility of collaborative work. All communications should be polite with appropriate language use.

Use of Computers, Networks, Network Equipment and Internet Access is a privilege for students and not a right. We expect students to use these tools in a responsible manner for educational purposes and to be considerate of all other users.

Users should not expect that files stored on district servers would be private. Network administrators may review files, communications and sites visited to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. The district will not be held liable for any lost, damaged or unavailable information due to technical or other difficulties. The School District will further not be responsible for unauthorized costs incurred by students, nor will it vouch for the accuracy of information obtained through the Internet, nor will it be responsible for students' negligence or mistakes.

All students are responsible for appropriate behavior on the Internet just as they are when involved in any school activity. General school rules and policies apply to all School Computer use, Internet activity and communication. Inappropriate use may result in loss of access privileges and may also result in further disciplinary action.

Unacceptable Use (Including but not limited to)

IIAE
(Also IIBH, JGF)

Illegal Activity. It is unacceptable use to in any way promote or engage in any activities which are deemed criminal under federal, state, or local laws, including but not limited to copyright, credit card and electronic forgery laws.

Hacking and Other Vandalism. It is unacceptable use to maliciously attempt to harm or destroy the hardware or data of another user, whether in school or any site connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, the creation and spreading of computer viruses. It is also unacceptable use to attempt to use another's password or account without written permission of the other person.

Offensive and Obscene Materials. It is unacceptable use to send or receive any data which is mean, threatening, suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or violent.

Personal Devices. It is unacceptable to connect any personal computing device to the district's network without written permission from the Network Administrator.

Private Commercial Gain. It is unacceptable use to engage in activity for private or financial gain.

Purchases or Expenses Incurred. It is unacceptable use to make purchases or incur charges of any kind, including without limitation, charges incurred by accessing fee based websites without express written consent of the School Department.

Policy
Approved
08/29/96

Amended 03/16/00

Revised 11/15/01

IIAE
(Also IIBH, JGF)

Barrington Public Schools
Permission Form for Computer Use and Internet Access

Each student and a parent or guardian must read and sign this form prior to accessing school Internet facilities.

Student Name: _____

Current Grade: _____ **Homeroom:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone Number: _____

I have read the Internet and Computer Acceptable Use Policy and understand its contents. I understand and agree that the School Computers, Networks and Network Equipment are the property of the Barrington Public Schools and that the Computers, Networks, Network Equipment and Internet access must be used for educational purposes. I understand that my computer or Internet use is not private and that the school administration will monitor my activity on the computer system. I understand that my privilege may be taken away if I violate the policy. I also understand that other school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken if necessary.

User Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

As a parent or guardian of this student, I have read and understand the terms and conditions for Internet access. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes and that the Barrington Public Schools will take reasonable precautions to restrict access to controversial material. I also recognize that it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial material and I will not hold the Barrington Public Schools responsible for materials acquired on the Internet. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Parent or Guardian(s) Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____