INTERNET/NETWORK POLICY

STUDENT ACCESS TO

NETWORKED INFORMATION RESOURCES

The Board for the Daleville City School District recognizes as telecommunications and other new technologies shift the ways information may be accessed, communicated, and transferred by members of society, those changes may also alter instruction and student learning. The Board generally supports access by students to electronic information resources, which include the Internet (E-mail WWW, search engines, etc.), along with the development of appropriate skills to analyze and evaluate such resources

Students attending Daleville City Schools (hereinafter referred to as DCS) are encouraged to utilize the computing capability of DCS in pursuit of their educational objectives. DCS strives to keep up-to-date equipment, software and communication capabilities at all schools in the system. Students and their parents or guardian in return for the privilege of using the computing resources, software and communication infrastructure of DCS must agree to this policy. Students and their parents agree that violation of these policies could result in the suspension of their privilege of using the DCS computing resources but will not relieve or waive the responsibility of the students to complete any work assigned by their teachers.

The use of computers at Daleville City Schools is a privilege afforded to our students to enrich their education and prepare them for the technology they will use both in college and the workforce after graduation. Students who abuse this privilege in any way will be barred from using the computers in the future and subject to discipline appropriate for the offense. Disciplinary measures can include the following: ISS, out of school suspension, expulsion, and/or legal charges if in violation of state and federal law. Students are to use the computers only for educational purposes related to their classes. Things they may not use the computers for include, but are not limited to, games, chat rooms, downloading any type of music, movies, videos, etc. E-mail is to be used only when supervised by a teacher for educational activities. Students are not to use the Internet to access any type of pornographic sites, sites containing profanity, or other sites inappropriate for the educational setting.

Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on school computer networks just as they are during any other school activity. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. The computer network is provided for students to conduct research and to communicate electronically. Access to network services will be provided to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Individual student use of the Internet will be permitted upon submission of the User Agreement and Parent Permission Form signed by the parents of minor students (under 18 years of age) and by the students themselves.

Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards and to exchange messages with people throughout the world. The Board believes the benefits from access to electronic information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that end, the Daleville City School District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for individual access to the computer network.

Students are responsible for appropriate behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General rules of behavior and communications apply.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and to communicate with others. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parent permission is required. Access is a privilege – not a right. Access entails responsibility.

Each individual user of the district computer network is responsible for his/her behavior and communications over the network. It is presumed that users will comply with district standards and honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

The District reserves the right to access stored records in cases where there is reasonable causes to expect wrongdoing or misuse of the system. Courts have ruled that old messages may be subpoenaed and network supervisors may examine communications in order to ascertain compliance with network guidelines for acceptable use.

Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly.

No Student or Staff Personnel Shall:

1. Utilize DCS computing resources except for the purpose of meeting educational requirements of an activity directly assigned as part of classroom work, extra credit activity, or school supported functions, which are supervised and monitored by school personnel.

2. Access, transmit, copy or retransmit material which promotes violence or destruction of property or the manufacture and use of explosive or other destructive devices such as but not limited to; explosives, fireworks, incendiary devices or other devices capable of causing injury or damage to property.

3. Access, transmit copy or retransmit any material judged obscene by community standards as defined by the DCS Board or any entity designated by the DCS Board to provide such definition. Material, including text, lyrics, images, or sound that is pornographic, material designed to stimulate erotic feelings by the description or portrayal of sexual activity, is strictly prohibited.

4. Access, transmit, copy or retransmit material which promotes or advocates violence, hatred, harassment, defamation, cyber-bullying or discrimination against any individual or group on the basis of race, ethnic origin, gender, age, religion, sexual preference or disability is strictly prohibited.

5. Utilize DCS computer resources to purchase, lease, sell or otherwise engage in any form of commerce.

6. Access, transmit, copy, create, possess or retransmit software, executable files, code, scripts, macros or any other material not specifically authorized and installed by DCS.

7. Commit or attempt to commit any willful act involving the use of DCS equipment or network capabilities that disrupt the operation of the DCS network.

8. Access, transmit, copy, create, possess or retransmit software, executable files, code, scripts, macros or any other material commonly know as a computer virus or worm.

9. Access, create, engage in or otherwise participate in role-playing or the playing of games or gaming software, other than as specially authorized by DCS personnel.

10. Willfully or negligently damage DCS equipment or facilities including but not limited to computing equipment, network equipment, printers or other peripheral equipment.

11. The student and parent or guardian agrees to reimburse DCS for the cost of repair to pre-damage status or value of the equipment as determined by DCS including labor at the prevailing local rate for any willful or negligent damage.

12. Copy, retrieve, modify transmit, or retransmit copyrighted materials, except with permission, or as a single copy to reference only.

13. Hacking is prohibited. Use of technology, local area networks, wide area networks, or the Internet to intentionally browse, see information about, obtain copies of, or modify files, passwords, or data belonging to other users is prohibited.

Network Etiquette

1. Be polite. Do not use abusive or otherwise inappropriate language in your communications.

2. Do not reveal addresses of students or colleagues unless approved by those individuals. E-mail addresses are frequently shared and may be used.

3. Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by others.

4. All users have the same right to use equipment. Users shall not play games, or use the computer resources for other non-academic activities when other users require the system for academic purposes.

Notification of Blocking, Filtering, and Monitoring of Technology

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Students and staff of DCS are subject to the provisions of the Alabama Computer Crime Act (1985).

Controversial Material
Users may encounter material that is controversial and which users, parents, teachers or administrators may consider inappropriate or offensive. It is the users' responsibility not to initiate access to such material. Users who voluntarily access such material may be prohibited from using the Internet and/or other disciplinary action.

Violations
Violations may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action

Your signed receipt of the student/parent handbook confirms that you will comply with these procedures.