Jackson County School Board's Student Use of Network and Systems

Acceptable Use:

The Acceptable Use Policy is a general policy that the district network as well as networks accessed through personal devices while on school property will be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner in accordance with the mission of the Jackson County School Board. Users must acknowledge their understanding of the general policy and guidelines as a condition of receiving access. Any user violating the rules and guidelines in this Acceptable Use Policy, applicable state and federal laws or posted classroom and district rules are subject to loss of network privileges and any other District Disciplinary options.

Acceptable uses of the network are activities which support learning and teaching in Florida. Users are encouraged to develop uses which meet their individual needs and which take advantage of the network's functions: electronic mail, conferences (video or audio), bulletin boards, data bases, and access to the Internet. The following will be conditions of internet use:

Safety and Security:

1. Students are required to sign a contract indicating their understanding and acceptance of the district's guidelines. They may then use the Internet in a supervised classroom environment

2. Parents must give their permission for their child to use the Internet for educational purposes by signing the parent or guardian contract.

3. School employees are required to sign a contract indicating their understanding and acceptance of their responsibility to monitor student network use for students under their supervision

4. Students are to receive instruction in the proper use of the Internet

5. Students will demonstrate personal responsibility by agreeing never to get together with someone they meet online without first checking with parents and teachers

6. Students will tell their teachers right away if they come across any information that makes them feel uncomfortable

7. Students will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make them feel uncomfortable

8. Users, who identify a security problem on the Internet or the Jackson County network, are responsible to notify a system administrator. Users should not demonstrate the problem to other users

9. Users should not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual

10. Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users.

Unacceptable Uses: (Non-Exhaustive Listing)

1.   Violating the conditions of the Education Code dealing with student's rights to privacy

2.   Posting, accessing, downloading, storing or printing materials that are considered pornographic, obscene, or inappropriate for educational purposes or which may be offensive to another user

3.   Using someone else's account or password at any time

4.   Downloading or installation of any commercial software, shareware, or freeware onto hard drives, network drives or disks, without written permission from the Network Administrator

5.   Copying other people's work or intruding into other people's files

6.   Threatening to or trying in any way to interfere with or hack into the computer systems at Jackson County Schools, or anywhere, in an effort to obtain private information, have the computer malfunction, or destroy data

7.   Using the network for advertising, soliciting, or harassment of any kind

8.   Using the network for personal financial gain or for any commercial or illegal activity

9.   Copying commercial software in violation of copyright law

10.   Plagiarism or reposting personal communications without the author's prior consent

11.   Violating any federal or state law regarding network access or downloading of files

Network Etiquette

1.   Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others

2.   Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language

3.   Do not engage in activities which are prohibited under state or federal law

4.   Always try to do your best writing, and proofread and edit your messages

5.   Choose words carefully to avoid misunderstanding; electronic text is devoid of context clues which convey shades of irony, sarcasm, or harmless humor

6.   Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users

7.   All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property

8.   Users are expected to remain within allocated disk space and delete e-mail or other material which take up excessive storage space

Student Privacy

It is clear that there are significant risks, as well as significant advantages, involved with allowing students to be identified on the Internet. Therefore students should not be easily identifiable from materials they might publish on the Internet. No directory information should be posted on the web for students whose parents have returned the form asking that such information not be released.

1.   Only first names be used in published student work

2.   Pictures that are a part of student publishing should not include identifying information

3.   Under no circumstances should a student's home address or phone number be included

4.   If replies to published student work are appropriate, the sponsoring teacher's address should be the e-mail address displayed, not the student's

5.   In special circumstances with parent-signed release, identifying information can be added.

Jackson County School Board's Network Management Guidelines:

The network management accepts no responsibility for harm caused directly or indirectly by use of the district network or internet. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The Jackson County School Board specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its network services. All users need to consider the source of any information they obtain, and consider how valid that information may be.

Never consider electronic communications to be completely private. The network operators take every possible precaution to safeguard the privacy of e-mail; but, instances of misdirected mail, mail inadvertently forwarded to others, and public posting of private correspondence by users may occur from time to time.

The Jackson County School Board reserves the right to review or delete any material on user or e-mail accounts and to monitor fileserver space in order for the school board to make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are inappropriate. In reviewing and monitoring user-accounts and fileserver space, the Jackson County School Board shall respect the privacy of user-accounts.