

Kittson Central Public Schools
Acceptable Usage of Internet Policy

Purpose

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. Access to the Internet will provide students and educators with:

- Electronic mail communication
- Information and news services
- Public domain and share ware of all types
- Discussion groups on a variety of subjects
- Connections to many libraries, companies, and data sources

The goal of installing Internet access is to assist teachers and students to exchange information, collaboratively solve problems, and share ideas. With connections to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of appropriate educational value. On a global network, it is impossible to restrict access to controversial materials. An honest effort has been taken by the Kittson Central District by installing a firewall and is current with subscriptions to limit the amount of inappropriate material which can be accessed. It is the responsibility of the student, parent, teacher, and administrator to ensure that access to telecommunication networks and computers provided by the school system is not abused.

Rights and Responsibilities

Computers and networks can provide access to resources within and outside the school district, as well as the ability to communicate with other users worldwide. Such open access is a PRIVILEGE, and requires that individual users act responsibly. Users must respect the rights of other users, respect the integrity of the systems and related physical resources, and observe all relevant laws, regulations, and contractual obligations.

Misuse of computing, networking, or information resources will result in the loss of computing or network privileges within the district as well as prosecution under applicable state and federal statutes when deemed necessary. Users will be held accountable for their conduct under any applicable district policies or procedures. User files kept on district computer facilities are considered "education records" and may be subject to search to protect the integrity of computer systems. Complaints alleging misuse of the computer resources will be directed to the district technology director and will be passed on to the appropriate individuals and agencies for disciplinary action. Prohibited usage and examples pertaining to each are as follows:

General Prohibited Usage:

- Using the district computing services for commercial purposes or financial gain.
- Using a computer account that you are not authorized to use or obtaining a password for a computer account without the consent of the account owner. If you as an authorized user give out your account to another individual, you can still be held accountable for any actions that may arise that are associated with your account.
- Deliberately wasting/overloading computing resources. This includes printing multiple copies of a document or printing out large documents that may be available on line, or that might impact significantly on other users of printing resources.
- Logging on to or subscribing to sexually explicit, discriminatory, pornographic, or malicious and violent material is a violation of district policy. Downloading of the same from the Internet to district computers is strictly forbidden and will result in permanent termination of all computer-networking privileges.

E-Mail

- Any attempt to monitor or tamper with another user's electronic communications or reading, copying, changing or deleting another user's file or software without permission.
- Masking the identity of an account or machine. This includes, but is not limited to, sending mail anonymously.
- Subscribing to any service which results in membership or online charges.
- Posting on electronic bulletin boards or other Internet services materials that violate existing laws or the district's code of conduct. This includes but is not limited to material that is slanderous or defamatory in nature and sexually explicit graphics or text.
- Be polite. Do not write or send abusive messages, swear, or other vulgarities.
- Do not reveal your personal information, or personal information of any other student.

Software:

- Copyright laws and license agreements shall be adhered to.
- Students may not install any software, especially games, without written permission from the teacher in charge and system administrator.

Security and System Vandalism:

- Using the district network to gain unauthorized access to any of the administrative computer systems.

- Attempting to circumvent data protection schemes or uncover security loopholes
- Inflicting damage to any computer or networking system. This includes physical damage as well as introducing any program (virus) intended to damage or place excessive load on a computer system network.

Enforcement and Security

Kittson Central Public School has established a ZERO TOLERANCE policy concerning the deliberate misuse/abuse of computer facilities and network access. Any users who identify a security problem on the system must notify the technology coordinator. Users must not demonstrate the problem to others users. Infractions of the above stated policy will be reviewed by the appropriate administrators, district technology coordinator, and when appropriate, law enforcement officials. Appropriate action will include, but not necessarily limited to:

- Suspension or revocation of Internet privileges.
- Access to all computing facilities and systems will be denied unless under direct instructor supervision and noted in copy of policy violation report.
- Reimbursement to Kittson Central Public Schools for costs incurred for repairs to hardware, software, or network time lost due to deliberate misuse/abuse. Reporting to legal authorities for criminal damages and civil law infractions.

Disclaimer

The Kittson Central School District provides the information network as an “as is, as available” basis. The district assumes no liability for loss of data or service. The user is solely responsible for evaluating the accuracy or suitability of any information obtained through a local or global network. Interpretation, application, and modification of this Acceptable Use Policy are within the sole discretion of District #2171.

Student/Parent

I have read and understand the rights and responsibilities as outlined in this agreement. We understand that an “Internet Driver’s License” will be provided to said “User” shortly after submission of this agreement. The “User” will not borrow another user’s account at any time, as this will be a violation of usage agreement. We further understand that misuse of computer or networking services may result in loss of district computer privileges, as well as possible prosecution by appropriate legal agencies.

Student Name (Printed)

Student Signature

I hereby give my permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information on this form is correct.

Parent Name (Printed)

Parent Signature

Date

Graduation Year

Account Name (Will be provided by Tech Coordinator)