

InstructionTechnology and InstructionAcceptable Use of Electronic Communication Devices (ECD's) and the Internet

The Brookfield Board of Education recognizes the potential of digital technology to support learning and enhance instruction. The District recognizes that the principal purposes of such technology in its schools are to enhance the curriculum and instructional program and to provide additional resources for authorized student activities. Resource sharing, communications and innovation capabilities for both students and teachers have been increased with access to a wide variety of Electronic Communication Devices (ECD's), telecommunications and to the Internet. It is imperative that members of the school community conduct themselves in a responsible, decent, ethical and polite manner while using the District ECD's and any network. They must also abide by all local, state and federal laws.

The District reserves the right to restrict or terminate network access at any time for any reason. The District further reserves the right to monitor network activity in any manner it sees fit in order to attempt to assure acceptable use and to maintain the integrity of the network. In order that an appropriate level of supervision and restriction may be exercised, students must use their assigned network login when using electronic resources.

Guidelines for Internet Use

It is important to recognize that with increased access to ECD's and the world-wide web also comes the availability of controversial material that may not be considered of educational value in the context of the school setting. Further, the school district recognizes.

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the importance of each individual's judgment regarding appropriate conduct in maintaining a quality resource system. While this policy does not attempt to articulate all required or prescribed behavior, it does seek to assist in such judgment by providing the following guidelines.

1. All use of the Internet, electronic services or any telecommunications network must be in support of educational objectives or research.
2. Any electronic mail accounts shall be used only by the authorized owner of the account. Account owners are ultimately responsible for all activity under their account.
3. All communications and information accessible via a network should not be assumed to be private.
4. Any use of the district's computing resources or networks for illegal or inappropriate purposes accessing materials that are objectionable in a public school environment, or supporting such activities, is prohibited. Language that is deemed to be vulgar is also prohibited. Illegal activities shall be defined as a violation of the law. Inappropriate use shall be defined as a violation of the intended use of the service or network. Objectionable is defined as materials that are identified as such by the rules and policies of the Board of Education that relate to curriculum materials and textbook adoption.
5. Any use of telecommunication opportunities for commercial purposes, financial gain, product advertisement, political lobbying, or to attempt to disrupt the use of the services by others, is prohibited.
6. The Board of Education has no control of the information on the Internet. Other sites accessible via the Internet may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people.
7. Violations of the provisions stated in this policy may result in suspension or revocation of access privileges to the Internet, electronic services, district networks and/or referral to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Guidelines for Electronic Communication Use

Electronic resources, just like lockers and other storage spaces, are school property. As such, they are subject to periodic inspection. Students are warned that there should be no expectation of privacy in connection with their use of electronic resources and that they should not store or use information which they do not want to bring to the attention of school authorities. Searches of electronic resources aimed at uncovering wrong-doing on the part of specific students shall be

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conducted in compliance with Board Policy 5145.12 - *Search and Seizure* and relevant federal and state statutes.

Any ECD's which are brought into, or connect to, the information networks of the District shall be subject to this policy and any related regulation.

Guidelines for Student Use

Student's use of electronic services is considered to be a privilege. Students in all grades who wish to use ECD's and networks that are available to them may do so provided they:

1. Read and agree to the Acceptable Use Policy
2. Check box and type in name on the "Acceptable Use of Electronic Communication Devices" and the "Internet Agreement" annually.
3. Have one parent/guardian (if under the age of 18) check the box and type in his/her name on the "Parent Consent" form.
4. Submit the completed forms on the school portal.

This Policy shall be included in all school handbooks, updated annually.

Because technology is rapidly changing, the Superintendent shall review this policy annually and recommend necessary changes, additions or deletions.

Cf. - 5114	- Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process
5131	- Student Behavior
5145.12	- Search and Seizure

Policy
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Brookfield Public Schools
Brookfield, Connecticut