

Guidelines for Responsible use of the Internet for Students

General Responsibilities

The Internet encompasses many different interconnected networks and computer systems. Much of the information provided by these systems is provided free of charge by universities, public service organizations and commercial companies. Each system has its own rules and limitations, and guests on these systems have an obligation to learn and abide by the rules. If requested, you should identify yourself when using any Internet service.

Use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, which may be revoked at any time for inappropriate conduct. Examples of inappropriate conduct include:

- Use of the Internet for anything but classroom related activities
- Use of the Internet for unlawful or malicious activities
- Use of abusive or objectionable language in either public or private messages
- Misrepresentation of oneself
- Activities that could cause congestion and disruption of networks and systems

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers and millions of individual subscribers all over the world. Students and teachers have access to:

1. Electronic mail communication with people all over the world;
2. Information and news
3. Shared, worldwide resources
4. Discussion groups on a plethora of topics ranging from diverse cultures to the environment to music to politics
5. Access to many University Library Catalogs, the Library of Congress, the United Nations and other resources around the world

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. The Lomega Public School System has taken precautions to restrict access to inappropriate materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials, and an industrious user may discover inappropriate information. We firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction available on this world wide network far outweigh the possibilities that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the Lomega Public School System.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibility you are about to acquire. In general, this requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Lomega Public School System user violates any of these provisions, his/her access will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicate the party (parties) who have signed has (have) read the terms and conditions and understand(s) their significance.

Internet Terms and Conditions

1. **Acceptable Use**- The purpose of NSFNET (National Science Foundation Network), the backbone to the Internet, is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the U.S. by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. School use must be in support of education and research and consistent with educational objectives. Use of other organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any general or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.
2. **Netiquette**-You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Be polite. Your messages should not be abusive to others.
 - b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities, or any other inappropriate language.
 - c. Do not reveal your personal address or phone number of students or colleagues.
 - d. Illegal activities are strictly prohibited.
 - e. Note the electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
 - f. Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
 - g. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.
3. The Lomega School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The district will not be responsible for any damages suffered. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non deliveries, misdeliveries, or service interruptions caused by negligence, error, or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the district is at the users own risk. The district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained.
4. **Security**-Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the Internet, you must notify a teacher who will in turn notify a system administrator. Do not demonstrate any problems to other users. Do not use another individual's account. Attempts to login to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to Internet.
5. **Vandalism**- Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware, data of another user, Internet, or any agencies or other networks that are connected to the NSFNET Internet backbone.
6. **Exception of Terms and Conditions**: All terms and conditions as stated in this document are applicable to the District and the internet provider, in addition to the NSFNET. These terms and condition reflect the entire agreement of the parties and supersede all prior oral and written agreements and understandings of the parties. These terms and conditions shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma and the United States of America.