

Schenectady City School District

Parent Permission Form for Internet and Electronic Mail Use Rules and Code of Ethics for Computer Users

The Schenectady City School District offers a variety of resources for students to use technology and access the Internet. We are pleased to offer students access to the district computer network for curriculum software, electronic mail (e-mail) and the Internet. To gain access to curriculum software, e-mail and the Internet, all students under the age of 18 must obtain parental permission and must sign and return this form to your homeroom teacher. Students 18 and over may sign their own forms.

Access to e-mail and the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with Internet users throughout the world. Families should be warned that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While our intent is to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages. We will use appropriate technology to filter out Internet sites that are clearly inappropriate, but ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. The Schenectady City School District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not your child can take advantage of the resources on the Internet.

District Internet and E-mail Rules

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in the classroom or a school hallway. Students should understand that the Districts' disciplinary code will be applied to computer, e-mail, and Internet uses.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others for authorized educational purposes and school sponsored activities. The network is NOT intended for commercial use or to disrupt the educational process. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a responsible and considerate manner. Parent permission is required. Access entails responsibility and is a privilege – not a right. Parental permission is required.

Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Students should expect that any work done on district computers might be subject to review by the District.

I/We have read and discussed the above with our child, and agree to the above.

Student Name (Print)

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

RULES AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR COMPUTER USERS

As a computer user I _____ agree to follow the
(student)
rules and code of ethics explained below.

1. I recognize that all computer users have the same rights and responsibilities and should have the same access to computer equipment at school. I promise that:
 - ◆ I will use the school's computers for academic work only.
 - ◆ I will respect school property by using materials and supplies appropriately.
 - ◆ While using school computers, I will be considerate of others.
2. I recognize that software and Internet material is protected by copyright laws. I promise that:
 - ◆ I will not make unauthorized copies of software found on school computers, either by copying them onto my own diskettes or onto other computers through electronic mail or bulletin boards, and I will not give, lend, or sell copies of software to others unless I have the written permission of the copyright holder, or unless the original software is clearly identified as freeware or in the public domain.
 - ◆ I will give credit to others' work and not call it my own. I will not plagiarize.
3. I recognize that the work of all users is valuable. I promise that:
 - ◆ I will protect the privacy of others' areas by not trying to learn or use their passwords. I will not copy, edit, or use files from another user.
 - ◆ I will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to system programs or computer equipment.
 - ◆ I will not use the computer system to disturb or harass others.
4. I realize that violations of the rules and code of ethics will be dealt with seriously and that a violator's use of computer resources will be restricted in accordance with the district's Discipline Code. I understand that:
 - ◆ If I damage equipment or alter software, I will be expected to make restitution that will include financial reimbursement to the district.
 - ◆ I will not send or display offensive messages, pictures, materials or obscene or inappropriate language.

Individual users of the district computer network are responsible for their behavior and communications over the network. Users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreement they have signed.

I agree to release the school district, the Board of Education, its agents and employees from any and all claims of any nature arising from my child's misuse of the computer network in any manner whatsoever.

I/We have read and discussed the above with our child, and agree to the above.

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Student Name (Print) | Student Signature | Date |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Parent/Guardian Signature | Parent/Guardian Signature | Date |