

# POLICY

## BOARD OF EDUCATION WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Acceptable use of  
Computer Network(s)/  
Computers And Resources  
By Teaching Staff

### 3321 ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTER NETWORK(S)/ COMPUTERS AND RESOURCES BY TEACHING STAFF

The Board recognizes that as telecommunications and other new technologies shift the manner in which information is accessed, communicated and transferred, such changes will alter the nature of teaching and learning. Access to telecommunications will allow teaching staff members to explore databases, libraries, Internet sites, bulletin boards and the like while exchanging information with individuals throughout the world. The Board supports access by teaching staff members to information sources but reserves the right to limit in-school use to materials appropriate to educational purposes.

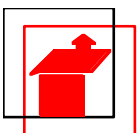
The Board provides access to filtered computer network(s)/computers for administrative and educational purposes only. The school district's network(s)/computers, including but not limited to electronic mail, is to be used only for school-related purposes and the performance of the teaching staff member's professional responsibilities. The system is not intended to create an "open forum" or "limited open forum" regarding the expression of ideas by teaching staff members. The system is not to be used for personal reasons, the expression of opinions on religious, social or political issues, or for solicitation, fund raising or advertisement for non school related organizations. The Board retains the right to restrict or terminate teaching staff members' access to the computer network(s)/computers at any time, for any reason. The Board retains the right to have the Superintendent or designee monitor network activity, in any form necessary, to maintain the integrity of the network(s) and ensure its proper use.

The Board adopts the following standards of conduct for the use of computer network(s) and declares unethical, unacceptable, inappropriate or illegal behavior as just cause for taking disciplinary action, limiting or revoking network access privileges, instituting legal action or taking any other appropriate action as deemed necessary.

#### **Standards for Use of Computer Network(s)**

Any individual engaging in the following actions when using computer network(s)/ computers shall be subject to discipline or legal action:

- A. Using the computer network(s)/computers for illegal, inappropriate or obscene purposes, or in support of such activities. Illegal activities are defined as activities which violate federal, state, local laws and regulations. Inappropriate activities are defined as those that violate the intended use of the network(s). Obscene activities shall be defined as a violation of generally accepted social standards for use of publicly owned and operated communication vehicles.



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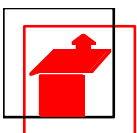
- B. Using the computer network(s)/computers to violate copyrights, institutional or third party copyrights, license agreements or other contracts. (17USC §106)
- C. Using the computer network(s) in a manner that:
  - 1. Disrupts network traffic or crashes the network;
  - 2. Degrades or disrupts equipment or system performance;
  - 3. Uses the computing resources of the school district for commercial purposes, personal use, financial gain or fraud, fund raising solicitation and/or advertising of non-school related organizations;
  - 4. Steals data or other intellectual property;
  - 5. Gains or seeks unauthorized access to the files of others or vandalizes the data of another user;
  - 6. Gains or seeks unauthorized access to resources or entities;
  - 7. Forges electronic mail messages or uses an account owned by others;
  - 8. Invades the privacy of others;
  - 9. Posts anonymous messages;
  - 10. Possesses any data which is a violation of this policy; and/or
  - 11. Engages in other activities that do not advance the educational purposes for which computer network(s)/computers are provided.

### **Internet Safety/Protection**

The school district is in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act and has installed technology protection measures for all computers in the school district, including computers in media centers/libraries, that block and/or filter visual depictions that are obscene as defined in section 1460 of Title 18, United States Code; child pornography, as defined in section 2256 of Title 18, United States Code; are harmful to minors including any pictures, images, graphic image file or other visual depiction that taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; or depicts, describes, or represents in a patently offensive way, with respect to what is suitable for minors, sexual acts or conduct; or taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

The school district will certify on an annual basis, that the schools, including media centers/libraries, in the district are in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act and the school district enforces the requirements of this policy.

This Policy also establishes Internet safety policy and procedures in the district as required in the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act. Policy 2361 addresses access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web; the safety and security of minors



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when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications; unauthorized access, including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online; unauthorized disclosures, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors; and measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors.

Notwithstanding blocking and/or filtering the visual depictions prohibited in the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Board shall determine other Internet material that is inappropriate for minors. The Board will provide reasonable public notice and will hold one annual public hearing during a regular monthly board meeting or during a designated special board meeting to address and receive public community input on the Internet safety policy - Policy and Regulation 2361.

### **Acceptable Use Agreement Requirements:**

No staff member shall be permitted to use the district's computer network or access the Internet using the district's computer equipment unless he/she shall have filed a signed acceptable use agreement with the building principal.

### **Violations**

Individuals violating this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary actions as defined in Policy No. 3150, including but are not limited to:

1. Use of the network(s)/computers only under direct supervision;
2. Suspension of network privileges;
3. Revocation of network privileges;
4. Suspension of computer privileges;
5. Revocation of computer privileges;
6. Suspension;
7. Dismissal;
8. Legal action and prosecution by the authorities; and/or
9. Any appropriate action that may be deemed necessary as determined by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education.

N.J.S.A. 2A:38A-3

Federal Communications Commission: Children's Internet Protection Act

Adopted: 29 April 2003

