

TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INTERNET USE GUIDELINES
STUDENTS/STAFF

PURPOSE

The Internet is an electronic communications network that provides vast, diverse and unique resources. As a learning resource, the Internet is similar to books, magazines, videos, CD-ROMs, and other informational sources. In the Township of Union Public Schools, the Internet will be used to educate and inform.

USE

Union students and staff will use the Internet to participate in distance learning activities to include, but not limited to: consulting with experts, communicating with other students and professionals and locating material to meet their educational needs. Just as the purpose, availability, and use of media materials does not indicate endorsement of their contents by school officials, neither does making electronic information available to students imply endorsement of that content.

In order to ensure Internet access is used only for appropriate purposes through Board of Education sponsored access lines, all staff and students are required to sign Use Agreements.

While the Internet can be a useful learning tool, the parents, students, and staff signing the permission form must understand that certain undesirable information may become available that may be considered inappropriate and/or offensive. District staff will attempt to monitor these activities, but they cannot guarantee that there will be no contact with undesirable, offensive or unwanted information. For the student, parental counseling is extremely important. For the staff, prudent judgement is the norm. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of privileges.

NETIQUETTE

The district has rules for acceptable behavior. Likewise, there are correct procedures and rules that govern the use of the information networks. If students do not follow these guidelines, they will lose their privileges to access the information highway.

- Be polite. Do not get abusive in messages to others.
- Do not use vulgar or obscene language.
- Do not intentionally disrupt the network or other users.

- Do not reveal your personal address or phone number or that of students or colleagues. Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private.
- Vandalism and/or harassment will result in the cancellation of the offending user's privileges.
- Illegal activities are forbidden.

PENALTIES

Any user violating these provisions, applicable state and federal laws, or posted classroom and district rules is subject to loss of network privileges and any other district disciplinary options, including criminal prosecution where appropriate.

The district will not be responsible for content accuracy or quality of information obtained through any Internet connection.

TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INTERNET USE GUIDELINES
PERMISSION FORM

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Township of Union Public Schools is pleased to offer students access to the Internet. Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards. While it is our intent to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, it is possible students may find ways to access other material as well. We believe that the benefits that students gain from access to the Internet, in the form of information sources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages. Attached is a copy of the Township of Union Public Schools *Internet Use Guidelines*.

Please review your individual family expectations regarding materials you may approve for your son/daughter to access on the Internet. If you want to allow your student independent access, please sign below.

I give permission for my son/daughter _____ to be issued access to the Internet through the computer network at the Township of Union Public Schools. I have reviewed the school rules regarding network and Internet use with my child.

I do not give permission for my son/daughter _____ to be issued access to the Internet.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Parent's/Guardian's Name: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____ Homeroom # _____