

INTERNET POLICIES

Acceptable Terms and conditions for use of the Internet & District Network

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. In general, this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Pierre student violates any of the provisions his or her use may be terminated, future access could be denied, and the school district's discipline policy be applied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is legally binding and indicates that the parties who have signed have read and agreed to the terms and conditions and understand its significance.

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 Pierre School District has taken some precautions to restrict access to objectionable materials. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover objectionable information.

INTERNET – TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS OUTLINED IN THE CHILD INTERNET PROTECTION ACT

1. Acceptable Use – Internet use must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the Pierre School District. Use of another organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material or material protected by trade secret, etc. Use for commercial activities by Pierre School District users is not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.
2. Privileges – The use of Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges. The district administration will deem what is inappropriate use and its decision is final. The network administrators may cancel privileges at any time as required. The administration, faculty, and staff of Pierre School District may request the network administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user privileges. Staff and student use is subject to review by district personnel and is not considered private or confidential.
3. Etiquette – Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Be polite. Use appropriate language. Do not use abusive, vulgar communications with others. No swearing or cursing may be used.
 - b. Do not give your home address or phone number to others nor share your password with anyone.
 - c. Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private. Anonymous messages may not be sent. Because we value the safety and security of minors, electronic mail outside the district system, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications are not allowed.

- d. Do not use the network in a way that would disrupt the network nor interfere with others' use of the building's or district's networks.
 - e. All communications are the property of the author and can be used only with permission.
 - f. The network may not be used for illegal activity nor may it be used for private financial gain.
 - g. No one may gain unauthorized access to resources or entries on the network for which they are not authorized. The Pierre schools' network may not be used to invade any other networks.
 - h. Home pages may be created when authorized by the building administrator and network administrator. Location for storage of home pages shall be set by network policy.
4. Warranties – The Pierre School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The Pierre School District will not be responsible for any damages a user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or users' errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at one's own risk. The Pierre School District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through Internet or network services.
 5. Security/Filtering/Monitoring - Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. Filtering software, Watchguard-Webblocker is now used on all computers with access to the Internet. This will block or filter access to visual depictions that are obscene and found harmful to minors. If a user feels he/she can identify a security problem on Internet or any district network, he/she must notify a network administrator/teacher. Do not share or demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log in to Internet as a network administrator may 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 or other district networks.
 6. Vandalism – Vandalism may result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user on the district's networks, the Internet, or other networks that are connected to the district's or Internet backbone. This includes, but not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses and programs designed to gain access to networks via illegal means. Intentional damages to equipment or software and other forms of vandalism may result in the cancellation of computer privileges and the district's discipline policy shall be invoked. Cost of damages will be billed to the user.
 7. Updating User Information – Internet may occasionally require new registration and account information from a user to continue the service. A user must notify the building or network administrator of any changes in his/her account information (address, etc.). Currently, there are no user fees for this service.

8. Telephone Charges – Pierre School District assumes no responsibility or liability for any phone charges including, but not limited to, long distance charges, per minute (unit) surcharges and/or equipment or line costs, incurred by user. Any disputes or problems regarding phone service are strictly between user and his or her local phone company and/or long distance service provider.

9. Exception of Terms and Condition – All terms and conditions as stated in this document are applicable to the Pierre School District. These terms and conditions reflect the entire agreement of the parties and supersede all prior oral or 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 South Dakota and the United States of America.