

812 Student Internet and Email Acceptable Use

Internet access and Electronic Mail (E-Mail) are now available to students and teachers in CFCI. We believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in school by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. To gain access to the Internet, all students under the age of 18 must obtain parental permission and must sign and return the User Agreement and Parent Permission Form.

Access to 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 could 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; 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.

To that end, the CFCI supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

CFCI Internet and E-Mail Rules

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network service is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parent permission is required. Access is a privilege – not a right. Access entails responsibility.

Individual users of the CFCI computer networks are responsible for their behavior and communications over those networks. It is presumed that users will comply with CFCI standards and will honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, CFCI is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on CFCI servers would be private.

Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. During school, teachers will guide students toward appropriate materials. Outside of school, families bear the same responsibility for such guidance as they exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio, and other potentially offensive media.

Students are permitted to access personal email accounts only for appropriate school related activities. Teachers are to monitor any such access to insure compliance with this rule.

Individual users of the Internet are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. The following are not permitted:

- Accessing any sites with adult content and/or discussions
- Sending e-mail that is offensive and/or inappropriate (if you have any doubts, let your teacher read first)
- Using computers in any way to cause problems for others. For example, Writing that is hurtful to others; deleting, destroying or changing the work of others; and/or anything that an adult has warned you about.

In the event a student engages in any of the above referenced activities, his/her access privileges will be revoked and other disciplinary measures may result.

- Student could lose computer privileges permanently for the rest of the year or for a period of time that the teacher or director determines the offense earns.
- Student will be financially responsible for any damages that they do to equipment, physically, or electronically.

813 Copyright Compliance

The board recognizes and supports the limitations on unauthorized duplication and use of copyrighted materials. The board does not condone any infringement on the property rights of copyright owners. Employees, students and visitors are prohibited from the use or duplication of any copyright materials not allowed by copyright law, fair use guidelines sanctioned by Congress, licenses or contractual agreements. Willful or serious violations also are considered to be in violation of expected standards of behavior for employees and students and may result in disciplinary action in accordance with board policy.

Fair Use: Unless allowed as “fair use” under federal law, permission must be acquired from the copyright owner prior to copying copyrighted material. Fair use is based on the following standards:

- the purpose and character of the use;
- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- the amount of and the substantiality of the portion used; and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for, or value of, the copyrighted work.

The Director or designee is responsible for providing information and training to personnel and students, as appropriate, to provide further guidance on the fair use of copyrighted materials, including in the following circumstances:

- single and multiple copying for instructional purposes;
- copying for performances and displays;
- off-air recording of copyrighted programs;
- use of “for home use only” videotapes;
- computer software
- copyrighted materials on the Internet and on-line data bases; and
- reproduction and loan of copyrighted materials by school media centers.

814 Student Discipline and Liability

It is essential that computers and networks be protected from misuse and abuse by users so they can serve their instructional purpose. Engaging in behavior that damages communications equipment and/or programs or interferes with use of these resources by others will not be tolerated.

Unacceptable use includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Abusive or objectionable language
2. Malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user
3. Transmission of material in violation of any US or state regulation
4. Use for commercial purposes or political lobbying
5. Violation of Copyright laws
6. Plagiarism

More serious violations include

7. Deletion or alteration of any network files or configurations
8. Planting a virus on a network
9. Running software designed to access passwords
10. Perform any act, which leads to significant damage to network operations.

Students who are found to have committed any of the above violations or other prohibited computer related actions will be subject to consequences possibly including suspension of computer privileges and suspension from school. The teacher and Director or designee will confer to determine the specific circumstances and consequences on a case by case basis.

If abuse of computers, peripherals or networks causes damage, which is permanent or requires repair or replacement, the student will be liable for any charges and may be subject to criminal prosecution.