

INTERNET USE

Access to Technology Resources Policy

In order to enhance educational opportunities for its students, it shall be the policy of the Trussville City Board of Education to permit access to and use of developing technology resources, including but not limited to the "Internet." Such access and use shall be restricted to faculty, students, and other persons who are engaged in bona fide educational and administrative activities which serve and are consistent with identified educational objectives and authorized support functions. To those ends, the Superintendent is authorized to promulgate reasonable rules and regulations regarding access to and use of school-based technology resources and to require adherence to such rules and regulations through such means as the "Internet Use Agreement" and by the application of appropriate disciplinary policies and procedures.

Introduction

To ensure that students receive a quality education and that employees are able to work in a professional and intellectually-stimulating environment, the Trussville City Board of Education ("the Board") provides students and employees with opportunities to access a variety of technology resources, including the Internet.

What is the Internet?

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers.

Students and teachers, through the Internet, will have access to:

1. electronic mail communication with people all over the world;
2. information from university library catalogs, electronic journals, government sources, and news;
3. public domain software and shareware of all types;
4. discussion groups on a variety of topics.

Statement of Caution and Consequences

Board policy restricts access to and use of computers and the Internet to instructional and related purposes. However, because of the nature of the technology, it is impossible to ensure that a user intent upon doing so will not be able to gain access to unsuitable material and data through misuse of computers or the Internet. When detected, misuse of equipment to access prohibited or otherwise inappropriate Internet sites are a violation of this agreement as well as Board policy. Violations of this agreement and of Board policy may result in denial or cancellation of access privileges, and are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and other applicable policies and regulations. Internet users are also subject to any civil penalties or criminal sanctions that may arise from unlawful use of the Internet.

Regulations Regarding the Use of Internet Resources

1. **Acceptable Use.** The use must be in support of education or research, or otherwise consistent with the educational objectives of the Board. Transmission or receipt of any material in violation of any state or federal law is prohibited.
2. **Privileges.** The use of computers and the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and their unauthorized or inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges.
3. **Network and E-Mail Guidelines.** Internet users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. All Internet users are expected to act in a considerate and responsible manner. The following infractions are not permitted on any Board computer, computer network, or the Internet:
 - a. Sending, displaying, or downloading offensive, profane, or prurient messages or pictures;
 - b. Using obscene language;
 - c. Harassing, insulting, or attacking others;
 - d. Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks (this includes changing workstations and printer configurations, and erasing or reattributing files);
 - e. Violating copyright laws;
 - f. Using another user's password;
 - g. Trespassing in another user's "files", folders, or work;
 - h. Intentionally wasting limited resources;
 - i. Using the network for commercial or political purposes;
 - j. Revealing personal information (i.e., photographs, addresses, phone numbers);
 - k. Disrupting the use of the network by other users;
 - l. Uploading or creating computer viruses.
4. **Security**
 - a. Users who discover or suspect a security problem within the computer system should notify the school technology team leader, library media specialist, or principal, and should not discuss the problem with or demonstrate it to other users.
 - b. Users may only log on to the network with their assigned user name and password.
 - c. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the network.
5. **Procedures for Use.**
 - a. Student users must have permission from their instructors before using computers or related technology resources.

- b. Users must sign in or register in the classroom or library media center each time they use the network.
- c. Users may not play games or use computer resources for non-academic activities unless given written permission to do so by the Superintendent, Board, or Director of Technology.
- d. Users may not waste or take without permission supplies (such as paper, printer, ribbons, and diskettes) that are provided by the Board.
- e. No user of electronic media may purchase and/or install technology hardware or software without the written approval of the Director of Technology.

