



INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation is pleased to offer its students access to the Internet. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting hundreds of thousands of computers and millions of individual users all over the world. This computer technology is a part of everyday life in most businesses and organizations and by allowing students and staff to access and use resources from distant computers, communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups around the world, we are better preparing them for the global society in which we live and work. The Internet is a tool for life-long learning.

Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, sexually explicit, or otherwise potentially offensive to some people. In addition, it is possible to purchase certain goods and services via the Internet which could result in unwanted financial obligations for which a student's parent or guardian would be liable.

While the District's intent is to make Internet access available in order to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. The District will institute technical methods or systems to regulate students' Internet access. However, those methods may not necessarily result in compliance with the District's Technology Usage Agreement Policy. That notwithstanding, the District believes that the benefits to students of access to the Internet exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, however, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Toward that end, the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation has included below the District's policy and procedures concerning use of on-line services for your review. In elementary and middle schools, the EVSC provides parents and guardians with the option of requesting alternative activities not involving Internet usage for their students

NOTICE: This policy and all its provisions are subordinate to local, state, and federal statutes.

Disclaimer concerning use of on-line services

The EVSC, its employees and agents, make no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, concerning the on-line access it is providing. Furthermore, the EVSC will not be responsible for:

1. any damages suffered by a user, including but not limited to loss of data resulting from delays or interruptions in service, or computer "viruses;"
2. the accuracy, nature, or quality of information stored on diskettes, hard drives or servers provided by the EVSC;
3. the accuracy, nature or quality of information gathered through the on-line access provided by the EVSC;
4. personal property used to access computers, networks or the on-line access provided by the EVSC;
5. unauthorized financial obligations of a student, or his or her parent or guardian, resulting from the on-line access provided by the EVSC.

Rules of on-line network etiquette

1. Be polite. Do not be abusive in your messages to others.
2. Use suitable language. Do not use profanity, vulgarities, sexually-oriented or other inappropriate language.
3. Do not reveal your personal address or phone number, or that of anyone else.
4. Remember that electronic mail messages are not guaranteed to be private. Those who operate the various on-line services have access to all messages and can report to the authorities messages which support illegal activities.
5. Do not use the network in a way that would disrupt the use of the network by others.
6. Assume that all communications, programs, and information which are accessible on-line are private property. As such, do not download any files without prior authorization.
7. Do not upload or download any software unless you're sure it is free from any computer virus.

List of prohibited uses of the on-line services

The following uses of any on-line services are prohibited by the EVSC. Moreover, this prohibited activity may be illegal and subject the offending user to criminal prosecution.

1. Do not access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene or sexually explicit materials.
2. Do not transmit pornographic, obscene, abusive or sexually explicit materials, or “stalk” or harass others.
3. Do not use the network to violate local, state or federal statutes.
4. Do not vandalize, damage or disable or “hack” the files of others. Creation of a “virus” is considered vandalism.
5. Do not access the files, information, or software of others without prior authorization.
6. Do not upload, download or otherwise use copyrighted material or other intellectual property of others without prior authorization. Copyright violations can result in fines or imprisonment.
7. Do not purchase any goods or services through any on-line service.