

**New Summerfield Independent School District Network
Acceptable Use Policy
Student Local Area Network Regulations
Student Internet Acceptable Use Regulations**

New Summerfield Independent School District provides access to the NSISD Local Area Network and the Internet. This worldwide network offers an infinite variety of data, some of which is not appropriate for student use. As a precaution, this acceptable use policy will be implemented to help prevent student access to objectionable material and inappropriate contact over the Internet. Please understand that it is the belief of the NSISD faculty and staff that the benefits of the Internet far outweigh the risks.

A. Educational Purpose

- The NSISD network has been established for a limited educational purpose. The term "educational purpose" includes classroom activities, career development, and limited, teacher monitored self-discovery activities.
- The NSISD Local Area Network has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. New Summerfield Independent School District has the right to place reasonable restrictions on the material you access or post through the system. You are expected to follow the rules set forth in the NSISD Student Handbook, this NSISD Acceptable Use Policy, NSISD Board Policy, and applicable Texas state and federal laws.
- You may not use the NSISD network for commercial purposes. This means you may not offer, provide, or purchase products or services through the NSISD network.
- You may not use the NSISD network for political lobbying.

B. Student Internet Access

- All students will have access to Internet/World Wide Web information through their classroom, library, computer lab, or school-issued computer. All students must have a completed Student Network/Internet Use Agreement which has been signed by their parents or guardians prior to receiving an Internet account. In accordance with the NSISD Board policy, if a parent presents in writing an objection to having their child(ren) utilize the Internet, the students will be assigned alternative activities that will be substituted for the Internet-based activities.
- Email accounts will be provided for the primary purpose of classroom use. Parents can withdraw their approval of email accounts at any time.
- The school district will educate all students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.
- The use of the school district computer system and access to use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right. Depending on the nature and degree of the violation and the number of previous violations, unacceptable use of the school district system or the Internet may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges; payments for damages and repairs; discipline under other appropriate school district policies, including suspension, expulsion; or civil or criminal liability under other applicable laws.

C. Unacceptable Uses

The following are examples of unacceptable uses of the NSISD electronic communications system. Understand that these do not depict all of the possible unacceptable uses of the NSISD Local Area Network, but serve only as examples of unacceptable uses.

1. Personal Safety Issues

- You will not post personal information about yourself (or other people) in any form, including e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, or social networking sites unless this information is a part of a class assignment that has been approved and is being actively monitored by the assigning teacher. Personal information includes your name, address, telephone, school address, work address, etc.
- You will not agree to meet with someone you have met online without your parent's approval. Your parent should accompany you to any such meeting.
- You will promptly disclose to your teacher or other school employee any message you receive that is inappropriate or makes you feel uncomfortable.

2. Illegal Activities

- You will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the NSISD network or to any other computer system or go beyond your authorized access. This includes attempting to log in through another person's account or to access another person's files. These actions are illegal, even if only for the purposes of "browsing."
- You will not make deliberate attempts to disrupt the computer system or destroy data by spreading computer viruses or by any other means. These actions are illegal.
- You will not use the NSISD network to engage in any other illegal act, such as arranging for a drug sale or the purchase of alcohol, engaging in criminal gang activity, threatening the safety of persons, etc.
- You will not download any program file, executable program, script, applet, or other software without prior approval from a New Summerfield ISD administrator.
- You will not load any application, game, operating system, script, applet, graphic, audio, or video file onto any NSISD computer system without approval from an NSISD administrator.
- You will not use or attempt to use an offsite proxy server to bypass the district's content filter in order to gain access to unfiltered Internet content.

3. System Security

- You are responsible for your individual account and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use your account. Under no conditions should you provide your password to another person.
- You will immediately notify a teacher or the system administrator if you have identified a possible security problem. Do not go looking for security problems because this may be construed as an illegal attempt to gain access.
- You will avoid the inadvertent spread of computer viruses by following the NSISD virus protection procedures if you download software.

4. Inappropriate Language

- Restrictions against inappropriate language apply to public messages, private messages, and material posted on web pages. You will not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, or disrespectful language.

- You will not post information that could cause damage or a danger of disruption.
- You will not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
- You will not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. If you are told by a person to stop sending them messages, you must stop.
- You will not knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization.

5. Respect for Privacy

- You will not re-post a message that was sent to you privately without permission of the person who sent you message.
- You will not post private information about another person.

6. Respecting Resource Limits

- You will use the system only for educational and career development activities and limited, high-quality, self-discovery activities. There is no limit on use for education and career development activities. Self-discovery activities will be closely monitored by staff members.
- You will not download files unless absolutely necessary. Prior permission must be attained before any download of files.
- You will not post chain letters or engage in "spamming". Spamming is sending an annoying or unnecessary message to a large number of people.

7. Plagiarism and Copyright Infringement

- You will not plagiarize works that you find on the Internet or on the NSISD Local Area Network. Plagiarism is taking the ideas and or writings of others and presenting them as if they were yours. You will respect the rights of copyright owners. Copyright infringement occurs when you inappropriately reproduce a work that is protected by a copyright. If a work contains language that specifies appropriate use of that work, you should follow the expressed requirements. If you are unsure whether or not you can use a work, you should request permission from the copyright owner. Copyright law can be very confusing. If you have questions, ask a teacher.

8. Inappropriate Access to Material

- NSISD maintains a "content filtered" Internet Access system and utilizes a web security appliance to monitor all Internet content. This system is constantly updated to reject objectionable material such as pornography, hate groups, objectionable language, etc. Unfortunately, there is no perfect system that will guarantee 100% protection from inappropriate material. Furthermore, it is impossible to reflect each family's attitudes on what is "inappropriate material." It is very important for each family to read and understand the following:
- You will not use NSISD Local Area Network to access material that is profane or obscene (pornography), that advocates illegal acts, or that advocates violence, intimidation, or discrimination towards other people. If you mistakenly access inappropriate information, you should immediately tell your teacher or another district employee. This will protect you against a claim that you have intentionally violated this policy. Be aware that the monitoring appliance maintains logs of all user activity. In the event of a suspected intentional violation of an inappropriate web site, the district will review the site access logs. Your parents should instruct

you if there is additional material that they think would be inappropriate for you to access. The district fully expects that you will follow your parents' instructions.

9. Due Process

NSISD will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation related to any illegal activities conducted through the NSISD network. In the event there is a claim that you have violated the Acceptable Use Policy or the Student Handbook in your use of the NSISD network, you will be provided written notice of the suspected violation and an opportunity to present an explanation before an administrator. That administrator will assess the level (how flagrant) of the rule violation, and take appropriate steps to enforce the rule, regulation, or law that has been broken.

10. Limitation of Liability

NSISD makes no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through the NSISD Local Area Network will be error-free or without defect. NSISD will not be responsible for any damage you may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. NSISD is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. NSISD will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system.

11. Consistency with Other School Policies

Use of the school district computer system and use of the Internet shall be consistent with school district policies, board policies, and the mission of the school district.

New Summerfield Independent School District Student Network/Internet Use Agreement

STUDENT INFORMATION

I understand and will abide by the above Network/Internet Acceptable Use Policy. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked and school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

Name of Student_____

User Signature_____ Date_____/_____/_____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN

I have read the NSISD Network/Internet Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. New Summerfield ISD has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it impossible for New Summerfield ISD to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting. I understand that I can revoke my child's privileges at any time.

I hereby give permission to issue an Internet and email account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Name (please print):_____

Parent/Guardian Signature:_____ Date_____/_____/_____

As a way of celebrating your child's accomplishments and participation in our school's programs, we would like the opportunity to post pictures and original work of your child in various media including our district's web site. In compliance with federal law that protects the privacy of your child, we will ensure:

A student's last name will not be published alongside his or her photograph. (Only first names and last initials will be used.) If a contact person is needed for a project, this will be a faculty member, not a student

No identifying material will be posted on the Internet (such as personal phone numbers, home addresses, email addresses, and individual pictures with the student's first and last name)

Personal web pages will not be published on or linked to the district's web site. If you do not want this information published, please respond in writing and submit this request to the appropriate school office.