

BELLVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Network/Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Network/Internet access is available to students, teachers and staff in Bellville ISD. The Internet is a network connecting millions of computer users all over the world. The Internet enables worldwide connections to electronic mail, discussion groups, databases, software, and other information sources, such as libraries and museums. Bellville ISD provides Network/Internet access to promote educational excellence in the District by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Bellville ISD firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on the Network/Internet far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the District.

District Philosophy

Risk. Sites accessible via the Network/Internet may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or controversial. Although the District will attempt to limit access to most of this objectionable material, controlling all materials on the Network/Internet is impossible. With global access to computers and people, a risk exists that students may access material that may not be of educational value in the school setting. The district does provide filtering software, but no filtering program is 100% effective

User Responsibilities. Network/Internet users, like traditional library users, are responsible for their actions in accessing available resources.

Mandatory training. To educate new users on proper Network/Internet conduct, a mandatory training session is required before access will be allowed.

Network/Internet - Terms and Conditions

Acceptable Use. Network/Internet access may be used to improve learning and teaching consistent with the educational goals of Bellville ISD. Bellville ISD's network has been established for limited educational purpose. The term "educational purpose" refers to classroom activities and limited high-quality self-discovery activities. The District's network has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. The District has the right to place reasonable restrictions on the material users access. Users are also expected to follow the rules set forth in the District's Discipline Handbook. The District expects legal, ethical and appropriate use of the Network/Internet

Privilege. Access to the Bellville ISD Network/Internet is a privilege, not a right. Assignments of Accounts: Network/Internet accounts will only be issued to approved Bellville ISD teachers, staff, and secondary students. Students may be allowed to use the local network with campus permission, but may only use the Internet with parent permission. Student Internet access will be under the direction and guidance of a teacher or staff member. Any other means of access to the Network/Internet is not acceptable.

Voluntary. Use of a District Network/Internet account is voluntary on the part of the student or teacher.

Publishing on the Internet. With parental permission, student work may be "published" on the Internet so that other users around the world can view it.

Subject to Administration. All Bellville ISD Network/Internet account usage is subject to the Administrator or designee's perusal for inappropriate use. This perusal may include activity logging, virus scanning, and content scanning.

Inappropriate Use. Inappropriate use includes, but is not limited to, those uses that violate the law, that are specifically named as violations in this document, that violate the rules of network etiquette, or that hamper the integrity or security of this or any networks connected to the Network/Internet. The use of the Network/Internet for purposes other than educational (classroom activities) or high quality self-discovery activities as determined by the administrator or designee is considered inappropriate use.

Violations of Law. Transmission of any material in violation of any US or state law is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to copyrighted material; threatening, harassing, or obscene material; or material protected by trade secret. Any attempt to break the law through the use of a Bellville ISD Network/Internet account may result in litigation against the offender by the proper authorities. If such an event should occur, Bellville ISD will fully comply with the authorities to provide any information necessary for the litigation process.

Commercial Use. Use for commercial, income-generating or "for-profit" activities, product advertisement, or political lobbying is prohibited. Sending unsolicited junk mail, or chain letters, is prohibited.

Vandalism/Mischief. Vandalism and mischief are prohibited. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Network/Internet, or any networks that are connected to the Network/Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, the creation or propagation of computer viruses. Any interference with the work of other users, with or without malicious intent is construed as mischief and is strictly prohibited. Any physical damage of the computer system is considered vandalism/mischief.

Electronic Mail. Students may only access their school created email accounts. Checking any other personal email accounts is not allowed.

File/Data Violations. Deleting, examining, copying, or modifying files and/or data belonging to other users, without their permission, is prohibited.

System Interference/Alteration. Deliberate attempts to exceed, evade or change resource quotas are prohibited. The deliberate causing of network congestion through mass consumption of system resources is prohibited.

Consequences of Agreement Violation. Any attempt to violate the provisions of this agreement may result in revocation of the user's access to the Network/Internet, regardless of the success or failure of the attempt. In addition, school disciplinary actions, IBS, suspension, withdrawal of network privileges for the remainder of the year, and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

Final determination. The administrator or designee will make the final determination as to what constitutes inappropriate use.

Denial, Revocation, or Suspension of Access Privileges. With just cause, the administrator or designee, may deny, revoke, or suspend Network/Internet access as required, pending an investigation.

Security.

Reporting Security Problems. If a user identifies or has knowledge of a security problem on the Network/Internet, the user should immediately notify an administrator or designee. The security problem should not be shared with others.

Impersonation. Attempts to log on to the Network/Internet impersonating an administrator or designee or Bellville ISD employee will result in revocation of the user's access to Network/Internet.

Other Security Risks. Any user identified as having had access privileges revoked or denied on another computer system may be denied access to the Bellville ISD Network/Internet.

Disclaimer.

This agreement applies to stand-alone computers as well as computers connected to the Network/Internet. Bellville ISD makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the services it is providing and is not responsible for any damages suffered by users. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or user errors or omissions. Bellville ISD is not responsible for phone/credit card bills or any other charges incurred by users. Use of any information obtained via the Network/Internet is at the user's own risk. Bellville ISD specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.