

Grinnell Middle School Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Acceptable Use:

- Must be in support of education and research consistent with district policy
- Must be consistent with the rules appropriate to any network being used/accessed
- Unauthorized use of copyrighted material is prohibited
- Threatening or obscene material is prohibited
- Distribution of material protected by trade secret is prohibited
- Use for commercial activities is not acceptable
- Product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited

Privileges

- Access to the Internet is not a right, but a privilege
- Unacceptable usage will result in cancellation of account
- Training will be provided for each individual applying for an account

Netiquette

- Be polite
- Do not use vulgar or obscene language
- Use caution when revealing your address or phone number (or those of others)
- Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private
- Do not intentionally disrupt the network for others
- Abide by generally accepted rules of network etiquette

Security

- If you do identify a security problem, notify a system administrator immediately
- Do not show or identify a security problem to others
- Do not reveal your account password or allow another person to use your account
- Do not use another individual's account
- Attempts to log on as another user will result in cancellation of privileges
- Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access.
- User must notify the district system administrator of any change in account information
- User may be occasionally required to update registration, password, and account information in order to continue Internet access.

Vandalism/Harassment

- Vandalism and/or harassment will result in the cancellation of the offending user's account
- Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user on the Internet or other networks. This includes, but is not limited to, creating and/or uploading computer viruses.
- Harassment is defined as the persistent annoyance of another user or the interference in another user's work. This includes, but is not limited to, the sending of unwanted mail.

Penalties

- Any user violating these provisions, applicable state and federal laws or posted classroom and district rules is subject to loss of network privileges and any other District Disciplinary options, including criminal prosecution.
- School and district administrators will make the final determination as to what constitutes unacceptable use and their decision is final.

The Grinnell School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The Grinnell School District will not be responsible for any damages a user may suffer including loss of data. The district will not be responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through this Internet connection.

Students and parents will receive an Internet Acceptable Use Policy to read and sign before the student is allowed to have access on the Internet

The Internet is a privilege, not a right, and the privilege can be revoked if the Internet is not used within the guidelines that appear on the Internet Policy.

E-mail Guidelines

Students shall have no expectation of privacy when using district e-mail, computer systems, or electronic devices. E-mail messages shall be used only for approved educational purposes. Students must use appropriate language in all messages. Students are expected to use the system following guidelines approved by teachers or the administration.

Any e-mail or computer application or information stored in district computers, computer systems, or electronic devices is subject to monitoring by the staff and/or administration. The district retains the right to duplicate any information created by students in a computer system, on any individual computer, or on any electronic device. Students who violate these rules or any other classroom rules relating to computer or electronic device use are subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion from school.

- Unless directly instructed by a staff member of the school, no student shall use his/her e-mail to send notes, documents and/or other electronic information to a fellow student at Grinnell Schools.
- Unless directly instructed by a staff member of the school or given the permission of a staff member of the school, no student shall print a hard copy of either incoming or outgoing e-mail.
- The use of e-mail is designed to supplement and enhance the communication skills of the students. The use of e-mail is to be used only for educational intent or as a classroom activity under the immediate supervision of a classroom teacher. Students are explicitly prohibited from using e-mail for personal and/or casual use.

Note 1: Activity period use of e-mail is not permitted under any circumstance.

Note 2: It is not the intent of USD 291 to provide “personal” e-mail services for Grinnell students. “Personal” services are those obtained by an individual for his/her own personal and private use and should occur at home outside of the normal school day.

Preventing Incidences of “Sexting”

(Wording provided by KASB)

Many parents are unfamiliar with ‘sexting.’ It is generally defined as sending, sharing, viewing, receiving or possessing indecent visual depictions of oneself or another person using a cell phone. A student will be disciplined for sexting at school. USD 291 prohibits sexting at school.

Discussing sexting and its legal and social consequences with your children may prevent and reduce incidences of it at school and elsewhere. A recent survey revealed that about 20 percent of teen boys and girls have sent sexting messages. It can cause enormous emotional pain for the students involved, often with legal implications. The following talking points from the American Academy of Pediatrics may help start the discussion: Introduce the issue as soon as a child is old enough to have a cell phone. Even if the issue hasn’t directly effected your school building’s community, ask “have you heard of sexting?” “Tell me what you think it is.” Learn what your child’s understanding is and add an age appropriate explanation.

Student’s Signature _____

Parent’s Signature _____

Date _____