

NETWORK & INTERNET USE

I. General Purpose

The Sevier County Board of Education ("Board") remains committed to providing staff members and students with access to both a system-wide network and the Internet. However, use of the Board's network is a privilege, not a right. Therefore, any and all network users are responsible for knowing, understanding and abiding by this Network & Internet Use Policy ("Policy").

II. Authorized Users

Only current staff members employed by and students enrolled in the Sevier County School System may access and utilize the Board's network and Internet service. However, students may only access the network and Internet service while under the direct supervision of a staff member(s).

III. Internet Access

The Board's Internet service should be used for educational purposes or other school-related activities. As such, prohibited activities include but are not limited to:

- (A) Uploading and/or downloading files without permission from an administrator;
- (B) Accessing pornographic and/or offensive material;
- (C) Utilizing the Internet for personal or commercial financial gain or fraud;
- (D) Participating in any form of harassment; and
- (E) Introducing or attempting to introduce viruses to the network.

The Board retains full ownership and control of its computers. As such, using those computers to access the Internet should be accomplished with the full knowledge that said access is not private. In fact Internet access to school computers remains subject to monitoring and review.

IV. Network Use

The Board's network should only be used for educational purposes or other school-related activities. As such, prohibited activities include but are not limited to:

- (A) Accessing staff members/students' private information for personal use;
- (B) Utilizing the network for personal or commercial financial gain or fraud;
- (C) Destroying network data without permission; and
- (D) Introducing or attempting to introduce viruses to the network.

The Board retains full ownership and control of its network. As such, using the network should be accomplished with the full knowledge that said usage is not private. In fact, network usage remains subject to monitoring and review.

V. E-mail Management

Electronic mail message ("e-mail") addresses shall be provided to the Board's current staff members. However, staff members should only use their school e-mail addresses for education purposes or other school-related activities.

Please understand that e-mails are records. Therefore, school e-mail addresses should be used professionally and with the full knowledge that said e-mails are not private communications. In fact, messages sent and received from school e-mail addresses remain subject to monitoring and review.

VI. Available Penalties

Any violation of this Policy may result in the termination of network, Internet, and/or e-mail privileges. Penalties may also include but are not limited to:

- (A) School disciplinary action;
- (B) Restitution by a parent, guardian or staff member; and
- (C) Appropriate legal action.

VII. System Warranties

The Board makes no warranties of any kind regarding network, Internet, and e-mail services. As such, the Board is not responsible for any damages, including but not limited to, the loss of data. Further, the Board is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of any information obtained by staff members or students via the Internet.