

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Andrews Independent School District

Internet access is now available to students and teachers in the Andrews Independent School District.

We are very pleased to bring this access to Andrews School District and believe the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The Internet is an electronic highway connecting thousands of computers all over the world and millions of individual subscribers. Students and teachers have access to:

1. Electronic mail (e-mail) communication with people all over the world.
2. Information and news from NASA as well as the opportunity to correspond with the scientists at NASA and other research institutions.
3. Public domain software and graphics of all types for school use.
4. Discussion groups on a plethora of topics ranging from Chinese culture to the environment to music to politics.
5. Access to many University Library Catalogs, the Library of Congress, and ERIC, a large collection of relevant information to educators and students.
6. Graphical access to the World Wide Web, the newest and most exciting access tool on the Internet.
7. "Chat" rooms, if authorized by the administration, whereby students and teachers can communicate with others about research projects and other appropriate topics.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of

material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Andrews School District has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials by both employees and students through the use of a software program that prevents access to designated inappropriate sources.

However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information. We (Andrews School District) firmly believe that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the District.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies, and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. In general this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If an Andrews School District user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied.

The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

Internet - - Terms and Conditions of Use

1. **Acceptable Use** - The purpose of the backbone networks making up the Internet is to support research and education in and among academic institutions by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of your account is for support of education and research and should be consistent with the educational objectives of the Andrews School District. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden. Use of other organization's network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any national or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. Users should be aware that it is a violation of the Texas Penal

Code for anyone under the age of 18 to view adult-oriented web sites and materials.

2. Privileges - The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges and in the imposition of punishment as per the Code of Student Conduct. (Each student or teacher who receives an account will receive instruction from a district staff member pertaining to the proper use of the network.) The system administrators will deem what is appropriate use and their decision is final. Also, the system administrators may close an account at any time if needed. The administration, faculty, and staff of Andrews School District may request the system administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user accounts.
3. Network Etiquette - You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a) Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
 - b) Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
 - c) Do not reveal any of the following:
 - personal address or phone number of yourself, colleagues or students.
 - pictures of yourself, colleagues or students.
 - the last name of yourself, colleagues or students.
 - d) Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system may have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities should be reported to the authorities.
 - e) Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
 - f) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property of the writer or author.
4. Andrews School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed

or implied, for the service it is providing. Andrews School District will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by the system or by your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. Andrews ISD specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

5. Security - Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the Internet, you must notify a system administrator or your Andrews District Internet Coordinator. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log on to the Internet as a system administrator may result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to Internet.
6. Vandalism - Vandalism, whether intentional or not, may result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism occurs when one user harms or attempts to harm data of another user of the Internet, or of any of the above listed agencies or other networks that are connected to any of the Internet backbones. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.