

# **Barstow Unified School District Student Internet and Network Use Agreement**

**Please read the following carefully before signing this document**

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

The use of the Internet and any network resources is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The BUSD administration, teachers and/or staff of BUSD may deny, revoke, or suspend specific user access of those students who violate the articles of this agreement. (See IV below)

## **Introduction**

This document will give you information about privileges and responsibilities of using the Internet and district networks as part of the student's educational experience. This agreement must be signed before the student will be granted access to the Internet and other resources provided through the BUSD' local and/or wide area networks.

The Internet is an electronic network connecting millions of people via computers from all over the world. Students may have access to:

- 1) Information and news from a variety of sources and research institutions;
- 2) Public domain and shareware software of all types;
- 3) Discussion groups on a wide variety of topics;
- 4) Many university libraries, the Library of Congress, and more.

However, on a public network, it is impossible to control all materials, including harmful matter.

("Harmful matter" means matter that, taken as a whole by the average person applying contemporary statewide standards, describes in a patently offensive way material which lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value for minors. (ref. Penal Code section 313)).

## **I. Supervision, Monitoring and Filtering**

Students are expected to use technological resources in a responsible and age appropriate manner.

BUSD teachers will reasonably supervise and monitor student use of the Internet and on-line resources. In addition, the Internet access provided in BUSD programs is regulated by a technology protection device that filters visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors. However, the County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do not control the content of information or resources accessible on the Internet and, due to the rapid growth in Internet content, filtering may not be perfectly effective. Students and parents should be aware that some of the materials on the network might be controversial and inappropriate for use by students. BUSD teachers attempt to provide resources through the Internet that are appropriate for classroom instruction and/or research for the needs, maturity and ability of their students. BUSD take no responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information from Internet sources. Students should be aware that computer files and communications over electronic networks are not private. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account under specific conditions, may be monitored or read by teachers and other program employees.

## **II. Acceptable Use**

Access to the Internet in education is to support learning. Academic institutions are provided access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of the Internet must be in support of education and be consistent with the educational goals of the BUSD.

### **III. Prohibited Use**

1. BUSD students shall not disclose, use or disseminate personal identification information about themselves or others when using electronic mail or other forms of electronic communication. Personal information includes student names, photographs, personal account addresses, home addresses, telephone numbers, Social Security numbers, or other individually identifiable information.
2. BUSD students shall not use the Network for any commercial, political, or personal use. Students shall not use the Internet for purposes unrelated to educational endeavors.
3. BUSD students are prohibited from accessing, posting, transmitting, publishing or displaying harmful or inappropriate matter that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based on their race, medical condition, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, political or religious beliefs. This includes a perception that a person has any of these characteristics or that a person is associated with someone who has, or is perceived to have, any of these characteristics.
4. BUSD students shall not use technological resources to encourage the use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, or to promote unethical practices or conduct any activity prohibited by law, policy, or administrative regulation.
5. BUSD students shall not violate copyright laws. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be the property of the author and should not be reused without his/her permission. Students may place copyrighted material, including multimedia, on the system only with appropriate permission.
6. BUSD students shall not read other users' mail or files; they shall not attempt to interfere with other users' ability to send or receive electronic mail; nor shall they attempt to delete, copy, modify, forge, or fraudulently use other users' mail or files.
7. BUSD students shall not commit acts of vandalism using BUSD technology resources. Vandalism includes, but is not limited to, hacking, intentionally transferring, uploading, downloading, or creating computer viruses and/or any malicious use of technology resources. Also included are any actions that harm or destroy equipment, materials, or data, in any form, of any other user. Public offenses related to computer crime are defined in Penal Code section 502.

### **IV. Consequences (Disciplinary Action)**

Violation of the above items may result in the cancellation of Internet and network privileges. The BUSD Executive Director (or designee) may close a student account at any time deemed necessary. Depending on the seriousness of the offense, disciplinary actions based on any combination of the following policies/procedures will be enforced: Education Code, BUSD district policy, and school site discipline policy. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the local/wide area network and the Internet.

## **STUDENT INTERNET AND NETWORK USE AGREEMENT**

I understand and will abide by the BUSD Student Internet and Network Use Agreement terms and conditions for access to the Internet and/or BUSD networks. I understand that my signature is binding and indicate that I have read the terms and conditions carefully and understand their significance.

I further understand that any violation of these regulations is unethical and some actions could constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges will be revoked, school disciplinary action will be taken against me, and appropriate legal action will be considered.

Student User's Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student User's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parent or Guardian Network Responsibility Agreement**

(If user is **under the age of 18**, a parent or guardian must also read and sign this agreement.)

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the terms and conditions as outlined in the BUSD Student Internet and Network Use Agreement.

I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes and that the BUSD has taken precautions to eliminate inappropriate materials. However, I also recognize it is impossible for the BUSD to restrict access to all inappropriate materials and I will not hold them responsible for material the student may access.

Parent or Guardian Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_