

X **MONITORED**
 MANDATED
 OTHER REASONS

EXHIBIT A**ACCEPTABLE INTERNET USAGE FOR STUDENTS**

The Board believes that electronic information research skills are necessary the preparation of informed students and future employees and that access to the Internet enables the exploration of libraries, databases, bulletin boards and other resources around the world. The Board also believes that honing these skills will allow students to complete in this new highly technological society; therefore, Internet access is encouraged proving use does not violate the tenets of this policy and is not illegal.

The purpose of district-provided Internet access is to facilitate communications in support of research and education. To remain eligible as users, students use must be in support of and consistent with the educational objectives of the district. Access is a privilege, not a right. Access entails responsibility. Further, students are required to use the Internet for district sponsored educational purposes only. It may not be used for personal reasons.

Student utilizing district-provided Internet access must first have the permission of, and must be supervised by, the school's professional staff. Students utilizing school provided Internet access are responsible for good behavior on-line just as they are in a classroom or the area of the school. The same general rules for behavior and communications apply during students' use of the Internet.

No students shall use the Internet in any manner, which could be deemed offensive or disruptive to the educational process. For the purpose of this policy, offensive or disruptive conduct is any use of the Internet to communicate or to receive communication and/or products, documents or any other tangible means of expression, that contains sexual implications, racial slurs, gene-specific comments, or any other comments that offensively addresses someone's age, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, national origin or disability. The Internet shall not be used to send (upload) or receive (download) copyrighted materials, trade secrets, propriety financial information or similar materials without prior authorization from the school's written professional staff.

User should not expect that files stored on school-based computers will always be private. Electronic messages and files stored on school-based computers may be treated like school lockers. Administrators and faculty may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and insure that users are acting responsibly.

The following uses of school-provided Internet access are not permitted:

1. to access, upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit material;
2. to transmit obscene, abusive, or sexually explicit language;
3. to violate any local, state, or federal statute;
4. to vandalize, damage, or disable the property of another individual or organization;

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EXHIBIT A

ACCEPTABLE INTERNET USAGE FOR STUDENTS (continued)

- 5. to access another individual’s materials, information, or files without permission; and,
- 6. to violate copyright or otherwise use the intellectual property of another individual or organization without permission.

The District reserves and intends to exercise the right to review, analyze, edit or otherwise supervise the use of the Internet and regulate its use by students. Said review, supervision and regulation shall be deemed to cover any and all information created, received or sent by virtue of the use of the Internet.

Any violation of District Policy and rules may result in loss of District-provided access to the Internet. Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in keeping with existing procedures and practices regarding inappropriate language or behavior. When and where applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

The Irvington School District makes no warranties of any kind, neither expressed nor implied, for the Internet access it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages users suffer; including-but not limited to-loss of data resulting from delays nor interruptions in service. The District will not be responsible for the accuracy, nature of quality of information stored on District diskettes, hard drives, or servers.

DATE: Board approval: August 15, 2001

Revised: December 18, 2002

<u>Legal References:</u>	<p><u>N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 et al</u> Disclosure of juvenile information; penalties for disclosure</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A 2A:53A-15</u> Liability of parent or guardian for willful destruction of property by infant under 18</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A. 18A:25-2</u> Authority over pupils</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A. 18A:37-2, 2.1,-3</u> Causes for suspension or expulsion of pupils</p> <p><u>N.J.S.A 18A:37-2.1 through -2.5</u> Discipline of Pupils</p>
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Parents of students in the Irvington Public Schools shall be provided with the following information:

The Irvington Public Schools is pleased to offer its student's access to the Internet. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting hundreds of thousands of computers and millions of individual users all over the world. This computer technology will help propel our schools through the communication age by allowing students and staff to access and use resources from distant computers, communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups around the world, and significantly expand their available information based. The Internet is a tool for life-long learning.

Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. In addition, it is possible to purchase certain goods and services via the Internet which could result in unwanted financial obligations for which a student's parent or guardian would be liable.

While the District's intent is to make Internet access available in order to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. Should the District institute technical methods or systems to regulate students' Internet access, those methods could not guarantee compliance with the District's acceptable use policy. That notwithstanding, the District believes that the benefits to students of access to the Internet exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, however, parents and guardians, of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. Towards that end, the Irvington Public Schools shall make the District's complete Internet policy and procedures available on request for review by all parents, guardians, and other members of the community. The District shall also provide parents and guardians the option of requesting alternative activities not requiring Internet use of their minor children.

This informational statement shall be distributed District-wide through the schools to parents, in students/parent handbooks, district and school newsletter, press releases, and/or other suitable information media.