

COMPUTER NETWORK FOR EDUCATION

The Board of Education is committed to optimizing student learning and teaching. The Board considers student access to a computer network, including the Internet, to be a powerful and valuable educational and research tool and encourages the use of computers and computer-related technology in district classrooms solely for the purpose of advancing and promoting learning and teaching.

The computer network can provide a forum for learning various software applications and through online databases, bulletin boards and electronic mail, can significantly enhance educational experiences and provide statewide, national and global communication opportunities for staff and students.

All users of the district's computer network and the Internet must understand that use is a privilege, not a right, and that use entails responsibility.

The Superintendent of Schools shall establish regulations governing the use and security of the district's computer network. All users of the district's computer network and equipment shall comply with this policy and those regulations. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action as well as suspension and/or revocation of computer access privileges.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for designating a computer network coordinator to oversee the use of district computer resources. The computer coordinator will prepare in-service programs for the training and development of district staff in computer skills and for the incorporation of computer use in appropriate subject areas.

The Superintendent, working in conjunction with the designated purchasing agent for the district, the computer network coordinator, and the instructional materials planning committee will be responsible for the purchase and distribution of computer software and hardware throughout district schools. They shall prepare and submit for the Board's approval a comprehensive multi-year technology plan which shall be revised as necessary to reflect changing technology and/or district needs.

Adoption date: November 20, 1997

Revised: April 26, 2001

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The District would like to offer your child access to our educational computer network, including the Internet. With your permission, your child will have access to various software applications, hundreds of databases, libraries, and computer services from all over the world through the Internet and other electronic information systems. The Internet is a system that links smaller networks creating a large and diverse network. The Internet allows students the opportunity to reach out to many other people to share information, learn concepts, and research subjects by the sending and receiving of messages using a computer, modem, and phone lines.

With this educational opportunity also comes responsibility. It is important that you and your child read the enclosed district Computer Network for Education Policy, and consent and waiver form, and discuss these requirements together. You and your child should understand that inappropriate network use would result in the loss of the privilege to use this educational tool. As indicated in the Policy on the reverse of this letter, the District will attempt to discourage access to objectionable material and communications. However, in spite of our efforts to establish regulations governing use of the District's computer network and student access to the Internet, a variety of inappropriate and offensive materials are available over the Internet and it may be possible for your child to access these materials inadvertently or if he/she chooses to behave irresponsibly. In addition, it is possible for undesirable or ill-intended individuals to communicate with your child over the Internet. There is no practical means for the district to prevent this from happening and your child must take responsibility to avoid such communications if they are initiated. I have included this information to ensure that your decision regarding your child's access to the District's computer network and the Internet is an informed one. You must be the one to decide whether the benefits of your child having access to the District's computer network and the Internet outweigh the potential risks.

If you wish to allow your child access to the District's computer network and the Internet, please return the enclosed consent and waiver form to the High School office.

**CAMBRIDGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
STUDENT UNDERSTANDING**

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____

I have read and understand the District's Computer Network for Education Policy and agree to abide by their provisions.

I understand that I have no right to privacy when I use the District's computer network and the Internet, and I consent to district staff monitoring of my communications.

I further understand that any violation of these provisions may result in suspension or revocation of my system access and related privileges, other disciplinary action, as appropriate, and possible legal action.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

(SEE REVERSE FOR PARENTAL/GUARDIAN CONSENT & WAIVER FORM)

PARENTAL/GUARDIAN CONSENT AND WAIVER FORM

I have read the District's Computer Network Policy. By signing this consent and waiver form, I give my permission for my child to be afforded access to the District's computer network system and the Internet.

I understand that my child's access to the District's computer network and the Internet is designed solely for educational purposes and that the District will attempt to discourage access to objectionable material and communications.

I also understand that a variety of inappropriate and offensive materials are available over the Internet and that it may be possible for my child to access those materials inadvertently or if he/she chooses to behave irresponsible, I further understand that it is possible for undesirable or ill-intended individuals to communicate with my child over the Internet, that there is no practical means for the District to prevent this from happening, and that my child must take responsibility to avoid such communications if they are initiated. While I authorize District staff to monitor any communications to or from my child on the District's computer network and the Internet outweigh potential risks, and I will not hold the District responsible for materials acquired or contacts made on the District's network or the Internet.

If and when my child's use of the District's computer network is not in a school setting, I will monitor my child's use of the system and his/her potential access to the worldwide Internet and will accept responsibility for supervision in that regard.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

(SEE REVERSE FOR STUDENT UNDERSTANDING FORM)