

Permission Form for Student Use of Electronic Communication ~ Internet Use

Student access to electronic mail and internet system services is available in Albany schools. This enables students to explore thousands of databases and websites, including libraries and electronic bulletin boards. This access has the potential to be a wonderful educational tool and students can benefit from its use. However, this tool can be misused, and the cooperation of students, parents or guardians and the school is necessary to insure appropriate use.

The district recognizes the significant influence that parents/guardians play in setting and conveying the standards their children should follow when using all media and information services. It is the district's intent to provide students with access to information without exposing them to objectionable material as defined by law or school policy. The school employees will do their best to monitor the use of computers capable of electronic communication by students. Also, a software filter to screen out pornographic or other objectionable material is built into network.

General school rules for behavior and communication apply to the use of electronic communication. Some specific rules for the use of electronic communication are listed on the reverse side of this form. Student and parental signatures are required by the district for use of the school electronic communication system.

Student Section

I agree to abide by the rules established by the school district regarding the use of e-mail, the Internet and other electronic communication. I understand that violations of these rules may result in disciplinary action. I further understand that violation of copyright law may result in criminal or civil sanctions.

Student Name (Please Print) _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Section

As a parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I grant permission for my son/daughter to access networked computer services, such as electronic mail and the Internet. I understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, but accept responsibility for guidance of my student for use of the Internet and other electronic communication. I also release the district from any liability claims or damages of any nature arising from my son or daughter's use of computer services, including, without limitation, my son or daughter's posting, accessing, or viewing images or information on the Internet that I may find objectionable.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____

This permission applies as long as the student remains at the school attended when permission was given. Permission must be renewed when the student moves to another school. Parents may revoke this permission at any time with written notification to the school.

Rules for Student Use of the Internet in Albany Schools

1. Students may use the Internet at school only when supervised by a staff member.
2. Students sending messages to others through the Internet, including electronic mail, shall not use inappropriate language or symbols, harass or threaten others, or publish or display objectionable materials such as pornography.
3. Students shall not use any electronic mail to encourage the use of tobacco, alcohol or other controlled substances or otherwise promote any activity prohibited by school or district policy or by the law.
4. Students shall not use more than their assigned amount of storage space on the school's computer system or knowingly take steps to avoid the district network filter unless authorized to do so by a school staff member.
5. Students shall not use another person's account number, password or other computer user information to access the school's computer system and/or Internet.
6. Students shall not access or utilize school data bases or information systems that are not designed for student use.
7. Students shall not read, copy, change or otherwise interfere with another student's use of the Internet or e-mail.
8. Students shall not vandalize, damage, alter or destroy school computer equipment, including computer hardware and software or information contained in the school's computer system.
9. Students shall not upload, download, use, reproduce or distribute information, data, software or file share music, videos or other copyrighted material on the school system or Internet without the author's permission. Copyright materials include written, musical, graphic or other artistic work created by someone other than the student and protected by copyright laws.

Off campus and outside-of-school-time conduct that violates this regulation or the district's Student Code of Conduct may also be the basis for discipline if it has the potential to disrupt or impact the safe and efficient operation of the school or interfere with the rights of others.

Failure to follow any of the rules regarding computer use may result in disciplinary consequences for offending students, including the loss of computer privileges or suspension or expulsion from school. Violation of copyright law may be reported to law enforcement officials and may result in criminal or civil sanctions.