

SUBJECT: INTERNET SAFETY

Introduction:

Internet connection exists to facilitate the official work of the WSWHE BOCES, hereafter referred to as BOCES. The Internet facilities and services will contribute broadly to the mission of the organization.

The Internet connection and services are provided for employees and students affiliated with the BOCES.

The use of the Internet facilities by any employee or other person authorized by BOCES must be consistent with this policy and supporting administrative regulation.

Principles:

BOCES Internet users must:

- Respect the privacy of other users.
- Respect the legal protection provided to programs and data by copyright and license.
- Protect data from unauthorized use or disclosure as required by State, Federal and WSWHE BOCES regulations.
- Respect the integrity of computing systems.
- Safeguard their accounts and passwords.

Terms and Conditions of Internet Access and Use:

The District Superintendent is directed to promulgate an administrative regulation to guide Internet access and use. Internet use agreements must be completed by each student user, and parent/guardian, and renewed each year. Alternate instruction will be provided for students who may not have parental/guardian permission.

Organization Rights:

Pursuant to the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (18 USC 250 et seq), notice is hereby given that there are NO facilities provided by BOCES for sending or receiving private or confidential electronic communications. System administrators have access to all mail and user access requests, and may monitor messages as necessary to assure efficient performance and appropriate use. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities must be reported to the appropriate authorities.

BOCES reserves the right to log network use and monitor file server space utilization by users, and assumes no responsibility for files deleted due to violation of file server space allotments.

BOCES reserves the right to monitor online activities of minors and will provide education to minors about appropriate online behavior including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

BOCES reserves the right to remove a user account from the network.

BOCES will not be responsible for any damages. This includes the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by negligence, errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained is at the user's risk.

BOCES reserves the right to change its policies and rules at any time. BOCES makes no warranties (expressed or implied) with respect to Internet service, and it specifically assumes no responsibilities for:

- The content of any advice or information received by a user outside BOCES or any costs or charges incurred as a result of seeking or accepting such advice;
- Any costs, liabilities or damages caused by the way the user chooses to use his/her BOCES Internet access;
- Any consequences of service interruptions or changes, even if these disruptions arise from circumstances under the control of BOCES. The BOCES Internet services are provided on an as is, as available basis.

Enforcement and Violations:

Pursuant to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA or CHIP Act), BOCES will operate a technology protection measure to block or filter Internet access to information that is deemed inappropriate for minors.

BOCES recognizes that the provisions of CIPA apply to minors and adults, including all students and staff, and that the Internet content filtering measure may be temporarily relaxed for authorized adult use for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

BOCES cannot guarantee that users will not be exposed to inappropriate material.

Questions about specific uses not enumerated in this policy or concomitant administrative regulation should be directed to an administrator.

BOCES will review alleged violations of the Internet Acceptable Use Policy on a case-by-case basis according to existing procedures.

Adopted: March 13, 2002
Revised: December 14, 2011