

STUDENT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE

Kittery School Department provides computers, networks, and Internet access to support the educational mission of the schools and to enhance the curriculum and learning opportunities for students and school staff. The School Committee believes that the resources available through the Internet are of significant value in the learning process and preparing students for future success. At the same time, the unregulated availability of information and communication on the Internet requires that schools establish reasonable controls for lawful, efficient, and appropriate use of this technology.

Student use of school computers, networks, and Internet services is a privilege not a right. Students are required to comply with this policy and the accompanying rules. Students who violate the policy and/or rules may have their computer privileges revoked and may also be subject to further disciplinary and/or legal action.

All Kittery School Department computers remain under the control, custody and supervision of the school unit. The school unit reserves the right to monitor all computer and Internet activity by students. Students have no expectation of privacy in their use of school computers. Student Internet use will be subject to an electronic filtering system administered by the School Department and the Maine School and Library Network.

While reasonable precautions will be taken to supervise student use of the Internet, Kittery School Department cannot reasonably prevent all inappropriate uses, including access to objectionable materials and communication with persons outside of the school, in violation of Committee policies/procedures and school rules. The school unit is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information that students obtain through the Internet.

Before a student is allowed to use school computers and Internet services, the student and the student's parent/guardian must sign and return the Computer/Internet Access Acknowledgment. The signed acknowledgment will be retained by the school.

In addition, students and parents shall be informed of this policy and regulations on an annual basis by means selected by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy and the accompanying rules and for advising the Committee of the need for any future amendments or revisions to the policy/rules. The Superintendent may develop additional administrative procedures/rules governing the day-to-day management and operations of the school unit's computer system as long as they are consistent with the Committee's policy/rules. The Superintendent may delegate specific responsibilities to building principals and others, as he/she deems appropriate.

Adopted: March 4, 1997

Revised: October 19, 2004