



Bethel Public Schools
516 East 176th Street • Spanaway, WA 98387
Student Information Network Acceptable Use Guidelines

The district expects everyone to exercise good judgment and use the district's computers, its network, its email system, and its Internet access system (collectively, "the district's network") in a professional and courteous manner. Use of the district's network is expected to be related to the district's goals of educating students and/or conducting district business. Communication over the district's network should not be considered private.

The district reserves the right to monitor all activity on the district's network, make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are consistent with this acceptable use policy, log network use and monitor storage disk space utilization by users, deem what is appropriate use based on district policy, remove a user's access to the network at any time if it is determined that the user is engaged in unauthorized activity or violating this acceptable use policy, cooperate fully with any investigation concerning or relating to any electronic transition on the Bethel network, and refuse posting of inappropriate files and/or remove inappropriate files.

The intent of these acceptable use procedures is to ensure that use of the district's network is consistent with its stated purpose and goal. These procedures do not attempt to articulate all required or prohibited behavior by its users.

1. Any member of the Bethel School District community who, without authorization, accesses, uses, destroys, alters, dismantles, or disfigures any district information technologies, properties, or facilities, including those owned by third parties, thereby threatens the existence of the district's network, threatens the security of the network within which members of the community may create intellectual products and maintain records, and has engaged in unethical and unacceptable conduct.
2. Access to the networks and to the information technology environment within the Bethel School District's wide area network and thereby to the Internet through the district network is not a right but a privilege and must be treated as such by all users of the network and its associated systems. Any user may be subject to disciplinary action and the privilege to access the computing and information resources may be denied if any of the guidelines for use of the information network are violated. Appropriate discipline measures consistent with the district's discipline policies will be followed.
3. Use of the information system for illegal, harassing, bullying, vandalizing, inappropriate, or obscene purposes, or in support of such activities is prohibited. Illegal activities shall be defined as a violation of local, state, and/or federal laws. Harassment is defined as slurs, comments, jokes, innuendoes, unwelcome compliments, cartoons, pranks, and/or other verbal conduct relating to an individual which (1) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment; (2) has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or school performance; or (3) interferes with school operations. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm any user by destroying the operating system, application software, or data. Inappropriate use shall be defined as a violation of the intended use of the network, and/or purpose and goal of the district. Obscene activities shall be defined as a violation of generally accepted social standards for use of a publicly owned and operated communication vehicle.
4. To reduce the risk of students accessing inappropriate material and to comply with the requirements of recently enacted federal legislation, the Bethel School District has installed technology protection measures designed to block or filter all Internet access to pornography, child pornography, and visual depictions that are obscene or harmful to minors. Under the law, all Internet access must be filtered, regardless of whether students or adults are using the computer. An exception to this Internet filtering requirement exists for bona fide research. Students with a bona fide research project that is currently being blocked by the district's technology protection measures must see the teacher for assistance. The teacher, after verifying that the research is a bona fide research project, will contact the Technology Department for assistance in disabling the Internet filtering measures. All other attempts at circumventing or disabling the district's technology protection measures are strictly prohibited.
5. Accounts such as those established for the Bethel network, and electronic mail shall be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose. Account owners are ultimately responsible for all activity under their account.

6. Students will not post personal contact information about themselves. Personal contact information includes home address, telephone number, school address, work address, etc. This information may not be provided to an individual, organization, company, or web site that solicits personal information. Students will not agree to meet with anyone they have met online without parent approval. If a parent grants approval, the parent should accompany the student to the meeting. Students will promptly disclose to teachers or other school employees any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable.
7. Unbridled and open-ended use of the network by all users cannot be accommodated. Users are cautioned to exercise prudence in the shared use of this resource.
8. Information on any computer system cannot be guaranteed to be non-accessible by other users. The district reserves the right to filter and monitor communication and information use on the network.
9. Use of the network to invade the privacy of individuals or entities that are creators, authors, users, or subjects of the information resources; to use the network for commercial product advertisement or political lobbying; to promote a personal for-profit or non-profit business; to conduct union business; to disrupt the use of the network by other users; or to illegally install copyrighted software for use on district computers will be subject to disciplinary action consistent with district discipline policies.
10. Use of the district network to access or process pornographic material, inappropriate text files, or files dangerous to the integrity of the district's network ("hacking" software), or to intentionally develop programs that harass or bully other users, infiltrate computers or computing systems and/or damage or alter software components of a computer or computing system will be subject to disciplinary action consistent with district discipline policies.
11. Use of the district network to submit, publish, or display any defamatory, inaccurate, racially offensive, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, or threatening material or message to either public or private computers will be subject to disciplinary action consistent with district discipline policies.
12. The Bethel School District does not warrant that the functions of the district network or any of the networks accessible through the district network will meet any specific requirements users may have, or that the network will be error free or uninterrupted. Nor shall the Bethel School District be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages (including lost data, information, or profits) sustained or incurred in connection with the use, operation, or inability to use the district network.
13. The Bethel School District will not be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages due to information gained and/or obtained via use of the district's network including, without limitation, access to public records.
14. All information and services contained on the district network is placed there for general informational purposes and is, in no way, intended to refer to, or be applicable to, any specific person, case, or situation.

Student Section

I understand and will abide by the Acceptable Use Guidelines. I further understand that any violation of these guidelines is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violations, my access privileges may be revoked and school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

Date	Printed Name of Student	Signature of Student
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Parent/Guardian Section

I have read the Acceptable Use Guidelines and understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize that the Bethel School District has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material and that it is impossible to restrict access to all controversial materials. Consequently, I will not hold the District responsible for materials acquired on the network. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child.

Date	Printed Name of Parent/Guardian	Signature of Parent/Guardian
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OR

I do *not* want my child to have Internet access.

Date	Printed Name of Parent/Guardian	Signature of Parent/Guardian
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