

North Andover Public Schools (NAPS) Network Acceptable Use Policy

Parents and Students:

The North Andover Public Schools maintains a Network Acceptable Use Policy for Middle School and High School students. This policy was rewritten and approved by the School Committee on 9/10/01 to reflect our compliance with both the recent Massachusetts Department of Education's Technology Benchmarks and the enacted Children's Internet Protection Act (C.I.P.A.). A copy of this policy is available through each principal's office and is posted on our district web page at www.nandover.mec.edu. Although students/parents at the elementary school level are not obliged to sign and return the agreement policy it is expected that all users will adhere to the spirit of this policy. It was written to secure the integrity of our network facilities as well as provide safety to all our children using our local and world-wide resources. The highlights and spirit of the policy are summarized as follows:

- A) The use of the NAPS Network is a privilege, not a right, and must be used in support of education, research and consistent with the educational objectives of the North Andover School System. All users must behave in an ethical and legal matter.
- B) Use of the NAPS Network must conform to all state and federal laws, and Internet Service Provider (ISP) policies.
- C) Users will be responsible for the appropriateness and content of public and private material transmitted or published on the NAPS Network.
- D) Downloading material is permitted only with permission from teacher or Technology staff.
- E) Attempts to gain access to inappropriate or restricted sites are prohibited. (The web filter used by the district shall be periodically updated to provide constant filtering of access capabilities).
- F) Users shall not communicate personal addresses, telephone numbers or financial information over the NAPS Network.
- G) Users must not try to gain unlawful access to other computers, networks, or information systems for the purpose of "hacking" and/or deliberately trans-mitting "viruses" or other harmful forms of programming or vandalism.
- H) When using electronic mail, chat rooms, and/or other forms of electronic communications, users must not transmit names, photos, or other personal information to strangers. Students may have email only under teacher supervision. Online chats of a non-educational nature (including instant messaging) are prohibited.

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- I) Users, including students, are required to notify their teacher or school representatives whenever encountering information or messages that are dangerous, inappropriate, or make the user uncomfortable.
- J) The North Andover Public Schools will monitor Internet usage through several means, including the following: classroom teacher supervision, presence of other district staff or periodic technological means.
- L) Failure to Follow Policy: The NAPS Network Acceptable Use Policy applies to all users of the network facilities within our school district. Students who fail to follow the policy shall be subject to disciplinary action that may result in the loss of NAPS Network privileges. All violations of the NAPS Network Acceptable Use Policy shall be referred to the building principal. Sanctions will be consistent with existing student disciplinary codes.