

**Richland School District
Acceptable Use Policy**

Internet access is available to all students who agree to follow these guidelines. Parents/Guardians have the right to decline District Internet access for their student and are required to communicate their wishes by completing the opt-out form below.

We are pleased to offer students of the Richland School District use of the District computer network, including Internet access. The Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and educational resources throughout the world. Families should be warned that material found on the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While our intent is to make the Internet available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. We believe that the benefits to students from the Internet in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media information sources. To that end, the Richland School District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to allow Internet access.

DISTRICT INTERNET GUIDELINES:

1. Students are responsible for good behavior and communications on school computer networks. Communications on the network are public in nature. Therefore, general school and District rules for behavior and communications apply.
2. The network is provided to students for research purposes as long as the student agrees to act in a responsible manner.
3. Access to the computers is a privilege, not a right, and entails responsibility.
4. It is presumed that students will comply with District standards and Network Code of Conduct, and understand that disciplinary procedures will result if they fail to do so.
5. While complying with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA – internet filtering) and making every attempt to supervise students while accessing Internet resources, the District is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, or

controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

6. Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Therefore, network administrators may review user files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should have no expectations of privacy in their electronic files stored on Richland School District computers.
7. All use of the system must be in support of education and research and consistent with the mission of the District.

Students using the District network are not permitted to do the following:

- Access, send, or display offensive messages or pictures
- Use obscene or defamatory language
- Harass, insult, defame or attack others
- Damage computers, alter computer systems or computer networks
- Download/install programs, files, etc. without permission
- Access chat rooms, instant messaging services, games, etc.
- Violate copyright laws
- Use another's network account/password
- Give out his/her name, address, or phone number
- Trespass in another's folder, work or files
- Intentionally waste limited resources
- Employ the network for commercial purposes
- Accessing personal e-mail accounts is only allowed for uses outlined in the classroom curriculum

DISCIPLINE

Violations may result in loss of access to the Internet, loss of computer usage while at school, as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

Please fill out and return the bottom form to the school. You may keep the top portion for your own records.

Richland School District Opt-Out Form

Parent notification to _____(current school) declining Internet access privileges for the following child:

Student Name: _____ **Grade Level:** _____

As the parent/guardian of the student above, I **decline permission** for my child to access the Internet at school. I am aware that this request needs to be updated on a yearly basis. If at any time I would like my child to be able to access the Internet while at school, I am aware that such permission will need to be made in writing and submitted to the school office.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Address: _____ **Home Phone Number:** _____

Note: Please be aware that some library databases, periodicals, etc., classroom resource materials, and supplemental instructional materials, at all schools are accessed via the Internet. By signing this form you are denying your student access to these District resources.