

POLICY

STUDENTS

7093

AUTHORIZED INTERNET USE POLICY

The South Kortright Board of Education believes that the Internet offers a valuable information resource to students, staff members, and other users. The District's goal in providing this service to students and staff is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication in connection with classroom assignments, advisory projects, and other teacher-directed activities.

It must be understood that it is virtually impossible to technologically limit access to services through the District's Internet connection to only those that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study, and research related to the curriculum. Parents/guardians are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services on the Internet which the District has not authorized for educational purposes. Parents/guardians assume this risk by consenting to allow their students to participate in the use of the Internet.

Every computer in the District having Internet access shall not be operated by a student unless Internet access from the computer is subject to filtering software. Such filtering software shall be designed and it shall operate so that content which is obscene, pornographic, or harmful to minors shall not be displayed. Such filtering software shall also be designed and it shall operate so that content or language which advocates or promotes violence or hatred against particular individuals or groups of individuals or promotes the superiority of one racial, ethnic, or religious group over another shall not be displayed.

All students who might wish to use the Internet must follow certain guidelines in order to use the Internet at South Kortright Central School.

The South Kortright Central School Board of Education does not sanction any use of the Internet that is not authorized by and conducted strictly in compliance with this policy and its regulations. Users who disregard the District's Authorized Internet Use Policy and Regulations may have their use privileges suspended or revoked and disciplinary and/or other appropriate legal action may be taken. Users who are granted access to the Internet through South Kortright Central School assume personal responsibility and liability, both civil and criminal, for uses of the Internet not authorized by the district.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE REGULATIONS

Students, staff members and other users are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in classrooms or school hallways. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. The network is provided for students, staff members, and others to conduct research and communicate with others for educational purposes only. Access to network services will be provided to students, staff members, and other users who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner and who obtain the necessary signatures on the Internet Acceptable Use Agreement Form.

School computers are the property of the South Kortright Central School District. As such, any data or information stored on these computers is not considered private and all computer files may be accessed by District officials for any reason whatsoever.

All Web pages created by students and student organizations on the Districts computer system will be subject to the same treatment as are district-sponsored publications such as school newspapers. Accordingly, the District reserves the right to exercise editorial control over such publications.

In addition, students, staff members, and others who use the Internet at South Kortright Central School must adhere to the following guidelines. If a District user violates any of these provisions, his/her account may be terminated and future access could be denied. The user may be subject to further disciplinary action.

The South Kortright Central School District network may not be used to:

1. Participate in immoral conduct by accessing, viewing, uploading, downloading, storing, printing, posting, or distributing pornographic, obscene, or sexually explicit materials that use language or images that are inappropriate for minors or the educational process, as well as information or materials that could cause damage or danger of disruption.
2. Transmit or receive obscene, abusive, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, threatening, disrespectful, or sexually explicit language.
3. Access, review, upload, download, store, print, post, or distributed materials that use language or images that advocate violence or discrimination toward other people that may constitute harassment or discrimination.
4. Knowingly or recklessly post false or defamatory information about a person or organization, or to harass another person, or to engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
5. Engage in any illegal act or violate any local, state, or federal statute or law.

6. Vandalize, damage or disable the property of another person or organization, deliberately attempt to degrade or disrupt equipment, software or system performance by spreading computer viruses or by any other means, tamper with, modify or change the School District system's software, hardware or wiring, or take any action to violate the School District system's security, or disrupt the use of the system by other users.
7. Gain unauthorized access to information resources or to access another person's materials, information, or files without the implied or direct permission of that person.
8. Change, copy, rename, delete, read, or otherwise access files or software not created by the user, without express permission.
9. Reveal personal information about oneself or post private information about another person including, but not limited to, address, telephone number, school address, identification number, or repost a message that was sent to the user privately without permission of the person who sent the message.
10. Gain unauthorized access to the School District system or any other system through the District's system.
11. Violate copyright laws, or usage licensing agreements, or otherwise use another person's property without the person's prior approval or proper citation, including downloading, exchanging, copying, or installing unauthorized software or plagiarizing works found on the Internet.
12. Install any software unless it is approved for use in a class or curriculum or without the approval of the Network Administrator.
13. Transmit material, information or software in violation of any District policy or regulations, the school behavior code, and/or federal, state and local law or regulation.
14. Use the computer system for profit making, unauthorized commercial purposes, or financial gain unrelated to the mission of the School District.
15. Use the computer system for political activity.
16. Use the Internet for any purpose which would involve a monetary charge to the school.
17. Use the computer for personal reasons, including the use of any "chat room", except during recreation under direct supervision of a staff member.
18. Disable or attempt to disable filtering software. However, such filtering software may be disabled for bona fide research or other lawful purposes when the Superintendent has given written permission to disable the filtering software.
19. Circumvent, bypass, or in any way defeat the effect of the content filtering system or any other network device.
20. Access or attempt to access any site intentionally blocked by the district or use any means to defeat or circumvent content filtering systems used to filter those sites.
21. Delete or mask any historical data, including but not limited to browsing history, cookies, temporary internet files, recent downloads and recent documents.

**SOUTH KORTRIGHT CENTRAL SCHOOL
INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT**

STUDENT

I have read, understand, and will abide by the Authorized Internet Use Policy. I further understand that any violation of the regulations above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action.

Student's Full Name _____
(Please print or type)

Student's Signature _____

Date _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Authorized Internet Use Policy. I understand that Internet access at South Kortright Central School is intended for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for South Kortright Central School to prevent access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the School District responsible for materials acquired on the network. I accept responsibility for discussing ethical use with my child.

Parent or Guardian's Name _____
(Please print or type)

Parent or Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____

SOUTH KORTRIGHT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Adopted: 04/28/97

Revised: 12/21/98

Revised: 03/19/01

Revised: 01/23/06