

**STUDENT COMPUTER AND INTERNET USE**

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The Bangor 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 (IJNDB-R). 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 Bangor School Department computers remain under the control, custody and supervision of the School Department. The School Department reserves the right to monitor all computer and Internet activities by students. Students have no expectation of privacy in their use of school computers, networks and Internet services.

As a result of the requirements mandated by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), the Bangor School Department will use the centralized content filtering program provided by the Maine School and Library Network to filter Internet access to all computers in the school system by July 1, 2002. This filter complies with the CIPA. It is designed to prevent access to materials that are obscene, contain pornography or are otherwise harmful to minors.

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

Students and parents shall be informed of these policies and procedures on an annual basis through handbooks and/or other means selected by the Superintendent.

Parents may request alternative activities for their children that do not require Internet access through the established opt-out procedures.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this policy and the accompanying rules and for advising the School Committee of the need for any future amendments or revisions to the policy or rules. The Superintendent may develop additional



administrative procedures or rules governing the day-to-day management and operation of the School Department's computer systems as long as they are consistent with the School Committee's policies and rules. The Superintendent may delegate specific responsibilities to building principals and others as he/she deems appropriate.

Cross Reference:      GCSA - Employee Computer and Internet Use  
                              IJNDB-R - Student Computer and Internet Use Rules

ADOPTED:    September 3, 2002

