

## **Electronic Medium Acceptable Use Policy**

Acceptable Use Policies (AUP's) are being drafted across our nation as access to the internet becomes a reality. Educators the world over know that bringing the internet into the classroom promotes educational excellence and breathes new life and excitement into the educational experience. Meanwhile, educators are aware of inappropriate materials that may be accessed on the internet and wish to restrict their access in our schools. This can be accomplished with the total cooperation of the students, their parents or guardians, teachers, administration, and the community.

As citizens of a free nation, we recognize our constitutional First Amendment right to the freedom of access to information and to free speech. With each right there is a responsibility to uphold these legal and moral of our nation. Education will and must continue to uphold these legal and moral values in order to maintain a strong, free and progressive nation. It is the obligation of the Board of Education of School District 318 to set and adopt the following AUP.

It is not the intention of the Board of Education to restrict usage of the new technologies but to instill in the students, staff, administration, and community the values and ethics of acceptable use. Therefore, by signing the following document, you agree to comply with School District 318's Acceptable Use Policy statement and understand that access privileges to equipment, e-mail, or networks can and will be suspended in the event of noncompliance.

Electronic technologies are emerging as powerful educational tools for our students, staff, administrators, and community. With each emerging technology there are advantages and disadvantages. It is the position and policy of the School Board of District 318 not to restrict the use of the electronic medium but will follow state and federal statutes (per L. Mathison) to promote acceptable use of these technologies. By definition, the electronic technologies include computers, video and audio tapes, video and audio recorders, communication devices such as cell phones and other related telephone equipment, computers and computer software, e-mail, on-line services and the Internet. The Internet is a vast resource of readily accessible information through the use of computers, on-line services, networks while its uses must be for the good of education and our society.

School District 318 declares the following as unethical and unacceptable behaviors. When such behaviors are engaged, disciplinary action and revocation of network and Internet access privileges will result.

1. Using the network for illegal, inappropriate or obscene purposes or in support of such activities
2. Using the network or equipment for any illegal activity, including violation of copyrights or licensing agreements
3. Degrading or disrupting network traffic or crashing the network and connected systems
4. Using School District 318's computing resources for commercial or financial gain or fraud
5. Stealing data, equipment or intellectual property
6. Gaining unauthorized access of others' files or vandalizing the data of another user
7. Forging electronic mail messages or using another's account or password
8. Invading the privacy of other individuals
9. Posting anonymous messages
10. Using obscene language
11. Sending or obtaining offensive messages or pictures
12. Intentionally wasting a limited resource (time)