

## **2018 – 2019 Springfield Township School District Acceptable Use of Computer Networks, Computers and Resources**

Dear Springfield Elementary School Parents/Guardians:

The Springfield Township Board of Education is pleased to offer our students access to the district's computer network for electronic mail and the Internet. All students are required to return to their classroom teacher the Combined Consent form signed by a parent/guardian acknowledging the rules and regulations regarding the proper use of the district's computer network, computers and resources as set forth in this acceptable use document. Students will use the Internet under the supervision of their teacher for instructional projects; however, no Springfield Township students will have independent access to the Internet.

The network is provided for students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with Internet users throughout the world. Families should be warned that some materials accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While our intent is to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. The school board and the district personnel do not condone such misuse and will not knowingly permit this in the school environment. We believe that the benefit to students from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages.

As parents and guardians you share the responsibility for sending and conveying the standards that your children should follow when using media information sources. The Springfield Township Board of Education supports and respects your parental right to decide whether or not your child will participate in teacher directed activities on the Internet.

Internet access is a privilege. Students who have received written permission to access the Internet agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Users shall comply with district standards of acceptable conduct. This letter and the combined consent agreement (sent separately) are intended to inform parent(s)/guardian(s) and students of the rules and the consequences for violations.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of our schools.

Sincerely,

*Craig Vaughn*

Craig Vaughn  
Superintendent/Principal

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Students are responsible for acceptable and appropriate behavior and conduct on school district computer networks/computers. Communications on the computer networks/computers are often public in nature and policies and regulations governing appropriate behavior and communications apply.

The school district's networks, Internet access, and computers are provided for pupils to conduct research, complete school assignments, and communicate with others. Access to computer networks/computers is given to pupils who agree to act in a considerate, appropriate, and responsible manner. Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) permission is required for a pupil to access the school district's computer networks/computers. Access entails responsibility and individual users of the district computer networks/computers are responsible for their behavior and communications over the computer networks/computers.

Computer networks/computer storage areas shall be treated in the same manner as other school storage facilities. School district personnel may review files and communications to maintain system integrity, confirm users are using the system responsibly, and ensure compliance with Federal and State laws that regulate Internet safety. Therefore, no person should expect files stored on district servers will be private or confidential.

Parents should review the following examples of unacceptable behavior with students. Misuse of the district computer network may result in loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

1. Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures;
2. Using obscene language;
3. Using or accessing material or visual depictions that are harmful to minors including any pictures, images, graphic image files or other material;
4. Cyber bullying;
5. Inappropriate online behavior, including inappropriate interaction with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms;
6. Harassing, insulting, or attacking others;
7. Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks/computers;
8. Violating Copyright laws;
9. Using another's password;
10. Trespassing in another's folders, work or files;
11. Intentionally wasting limited resources;
12. Employing the computer networks/computers for commercial purposes;
13. Engaging in other activities that do not advance the educational purposes for which computer networks/computers are provided.