

**Student Use of the District's Computer Systems and Internet Safety
(Acceptable Use Policy)**

The Waterford Public Schools offers students, staff and community members access to the district's computers and computer networks, including access to electronic mail (e-mail) and the Internet (which will be referred to collectively as the "Waterford Public Schools Network"). Telecommunications is radically changing the way the world accesses information. A computer network, linked to the Internet, an international computer network made up of many contributing networks, represents a powerful educational resource unlike anything that precedes it. The primary purpose of use of the Waterford Public Schools Network shall be to increase student learning through education and research.

The skills required for using a computer network and the Internet are vital to the long term success of users when they enter higher education and/or the work force. The Waterford Public Schools offers its students access to the Waterford Public Schools Network to enhance and support student learning.

Computers, computer networks, electronic devices, Internet access, and e-mail are effective and important technological resources. The Board provides computers, a computer network, including Internet access and an e-mail system, and other electronic devices that access the network in order to enhance both the educational opportunities for our students and the business operations of the district. Wireless and/or portable electronic hand-held equipment that can be used for word processing, wireless Internet access, image capture and recording, sound playback and recording, information transmitting and/or receiving, storing, etc. (including, but not limited to, personal laptops, tablet computers, smartphones, cellular telephones, e-readers, listening devices (such as an mp3 player), network access devices and other electronic devices), will be referred to collectively as "the computer systems".

These computer systems are business and educational tools. As such, they are made available to students in the district for education related uses. The Administration shall develop regulations setting forth procedures to be used by the Administration in an effort to ensure that such computer systems are used by students solely for education related purposes. The Board will educate minor students through policy and curriculum about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyber-bullying awareness and response. Additionally, the Board will implement a technology protection measure to block or filter Internet access to visual depictions that contain obscene material, contain child pornography, or are harmful to minors and ensure that such filtering technology is operative during computer use by minor students.

As the owner of the computer systems, the Board reserves the right to monitor the use of the district's computers and computer systems.

Student Use of the District's Computer Systems and Internet Safety (continued)
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Legal References:

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221

Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53a-182b; 53a-183; 53a-250

Electronic Communication Privacy Act of 1986, Public Law 99-508, codified at 18 U.S.C. §§ 2510 through 2520

Children's Internet Protection Act, Pub. L. 106-554, codified at 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, codified at 20 U.S.C. § 6777

Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, Pub. Law 110-385, codified at 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(5)(B)(iii)

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WATERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Waterford, Connecticut