

Bellingham Public Schools

Middle School Student Network/Internet User Agreement and Parent Permission Form



Introduction

We are pleased to offer students of the Bellingham Public Schools access to the district computer network resources, electronic mail and the Internet. To use these resources, all students must sign and return this form, and those under age 18 must obtain parental permission. Parents, please read and complete this document carefully, review its contents with your son/daughter, and sign and initial where appropriate. Any questions or concerns about this permission form or any aspect of the computer network should be referred to your school's Library Media Specialist. A copy of Board policy regarding student access to networked information resources (2313) and this document are available on the Bellingham School District web site, www.bham.wednet.edu.

General Network Use

The network is provided for students to conduct research, complete assignments, and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Access is a privilege - not a right. As such, general school rules for behavior and communications apply and users must comply with district standards and honor the agreements they have signed (see over). Beyond the clarification of such standards, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district servers will always be private.

Internet / World Wide Web / E-mail Access

Access to the Internet and e-mail will enable students to use thousands of libraries and databases. Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. Families should be warned that some material accessible via the Internet might 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. Filtering software is in use, but no filtering system is capable of blocking 100% of the inappropriate material available on the Internet. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the Internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that end, the Bellingham Public Schools support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access (see over).

Publishing to the World Wide Web

Parents, your daughter or son's work may be considered for publication on the World Wide Web, specifically on his/her school's web site. Such publishing requires parent/guardian permission (see over). The work will appear with a copyright notice prohibiting the copying of such work without express written permission. In the event anyone requests such permission, those requests will be forwarded to the student's parent/guardian.

Unidentified photos of students may be published on school websites, illustrating student projects and achievements. **If you do not want your child's photo to be published on the website**, please indicate this on the RESTRICTION OF RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION, which can be found in the Back-to-School mailing or on the district web site at <http://www.bham.wednet.edu/families/families.htm>. Click on the "Restriction of Release of Student Information Form" link.

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To use networked resources, all students must sign and return this form, and those under age 18 must obtain parental permission. The activities listed below are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using obscene language
- Giving personal information, such as complete name, phone number, address or identifiable photo, without permission from teacher and parent or guardian
- Harassing, insulting or attacking others
- Damaging or modifying computers, computer systems or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using others' passwords
- Trespassing in others' folders, work or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes, financial gain, or fraud

Violations may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action (Board policy and procedures 3200 on student rights and responsibilities).

Student User Agreement:

As a user of the Bellingham Public Schools computer network, I hereby agree to comply with the statements and expectations outlined in this document and to honor all relevant laws and restrictions.

(Initial appropriate items)

_____ agree to use the network responsibly
 _____ grant permission to have my materials published to the World Wide Web

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Permission:

All students are provided with access to district computer resources. In addition to accessing our district computer network, as the parent or legal guardian, I grant permission for the above named student to:

(Initial appropriate items)

_____ access the Internet and e-mail systems
 _____ have his/her materials published to the World Wide Web

These permissions are granted for an indefinite period of time, unless otherwise requested. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. I understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for guidance of Internet use - setting and conveying standards for my daughter or son to follow when selecting, sharing or exploring information and media.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student's Name: _____
(Last) (First)

Parent's Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

User Name _____ Graduation Year _____
 Street Address _____