

West Las Vegas Schools

Internet-Communications Policy

Staff, Parents, and Community Internet and Electronic Mail Agreement Form

West Las Vegas Schools is pleased to announce access to the district computer network for electronic mail and the Internet. **To gain equitable access to E-Mail and the Internet, all individuals under the age of 18 must first obtain parental permission and return the bottom portion of this form to their respective teacher or school librarian.** The district will accept forms signed by individuals age 18 or over (they may sign their own forms).

Access to E-Mail and the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of educational libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with other Internet users throughout New Mexico and the United States as well as around the world. Please be aware that some material, downloads, and services offered which are accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, sexually oriented, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. School instructional staff will insure that access to the above is prohibited. While the district's intent is to make Internet access available on an unbiased basis and supplement and further the educational process and the district's goals and objectives, individuals may find ways to access other materials as well. West Las Vegas Schools believes that the benefits from access to the Internet in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration and for access to educationally oriented materials and services exceeds any disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are to be responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.

District Internet and E-Mail Rules

Staff members and individuals allowed access are responsible for good behavior on school computers, computer labs, and networks just as they are responsible in a classroom or school hallway. Communications on the network-Internet are public in nature, thus appropriate etiquette is compulsory. General school rules for proper behavior and communications will apply.

The network is provided for all students, parents, and community members on an equitable basis to conduct educational and school-based research and communicate with others. Access to network services will only be provided to individuals who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parental permission is required unless the individual is age 18 or over; **no person will be allowed access without a signed agreement.** Access to this supplemental service should be viewed as a privilege, not a right.

Individual users are responsible for their behavior and communications over the networks. Users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreements they or their parents have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, the school district is not responsible for further restricting, monitoring, or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

Network administrators may review Network storage areas, files, and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users (students and staff) are utilizing the system in a professional and responsible manner. Users should not expect the files stored on district servers to always be private.

Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. During school, librarians and the instructional staff will guide/direct individuals toward appropriate materials. The school district further believes that outside of school, parents and guardians should bear the same responsibility for such guidance as they currently exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio, and other potentially offensive media.

In accordance with this policy (copies of the procedures on student rights and responsibilities are available in all school offices and libraries), the following actions and activities are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using obscene languages
- Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
- Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another's password
- Trespassing in another individual's folders, work, or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes
- Accessing and/or downloading pornography or sexually explicit photos
- Using Chat lines

Violations of any of the aforementioned will result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

WEST LAS VEGAS SCHOOL DISTRICT #68 User Agreement Form

As a user of the West Las Vegas Schools computers, computer labs, and/or computer networks, I hereby agree to comply with the above stated rules-communicating over the network in a reliable fashion while honoring all relevant laws and restrictions.

Printed Name

Birthdate

Employer

Work Telephone

Home Address

City

Zip

Home Telephone

Signature

Date