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# Instructional Computer Network - Acceptable Use Policy

Amended 5/27/10

**(Please read, sign, and return page 2)**

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The Board of Education is committed to the development and establishment of a quality, equitable, and cost-effective computer network. The purpose of the network shall be for the advancement and promotion of learning and teaching, and administration and management purposes.

The network will provide a forum for learning various software applications and will significantly enhance educational experiences and provide statewide, national, and global communications opportunities for staff and students.

The District has established rules and regulations governing the use and security of the District's computer network. Failure to comply with District policy and regulations for the use of the network may result in suspension and/or revocation of computer access. Additionally, student violations may result in discipline up to and including suspension. Staff violations may also result in discipline up to and including dismissal.

## **Prohibitions**

The following is a list of prohibited actions concerning use of the District's computer network. Violation of any of these prohibitions may result in discipline or other appropriate penalty, including suspension or revocation of a user's access to the District's system.

- a. There must be no sharing of passwords without written permission from the teacher/administrator or District Coordinator, as appropriate.
- b. Transmission of material, information or software in violation of any District policy or regulation, local, state, or federal law or regulation is prohibited.
- c. No personal software or disks may be uploaded on to the District's computer and/or network.
- d. Attempts to read, delete, copy, or modify the electronic mail of other system users is prohibited, as is deliberate interference with the ability of other system users to send/receive electronic mail. Forgery or attempted forgery of electronic mail messages is prohibited.
- e. System users shall not engage in or encourage activities prohibited by District policy, State or Federal law.
- f. Attempts by a user to log on to the District's system in the name of another individual, with or without the individual's password, is prohibited.
- g. The use of software or hardware to circumvent security protocols, enter or alter District records, or destroy or impair computer use in the District is prohibited.
- h. Copy or install software that is not authorized by proper licensing.

## **Privacy Rights**

Staff data files and electronic storage areas shall remain District property, subject to District control and inspection. The IT Support Specialist II/Coordinator of Computer Instruction may access all such files and communications with prior notice to ensure system integrity and that users are complying with requirements of this policy and accompanying regulations. Staff should NOT expect that information stored on the District computer system will be private, including but not limited to staff email and websites visited.

## **Internet**

Byron-Bergen Central School District **DOES NOT HAVE CONTROL OF THE INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET**. Some sites accessible via the Internet may contain material that is inappropriate for educational use in a PreK-12 setting. The District does not condone the use of such materials and will not permit usage of such in the school environment. The District also denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its Internet accounts.

### **Acceptable Uses**

- a. Use consistent with the mission of the Byron-Bergen Central School District.
- b. Use that encourages efficient, cooperative methods to perform the user's job duties or educational tasks.
- c. Use in support of research and education.
- d. To provide resources and promote collaborative projects.

### **Unacceptable Uses**

- a. Use of technology resources for a commercial, political, or as a profit-making enterprise.
- b. Accessing or distributing inappropriate material; i.e., obscene, abusive, threatening, harassing (religious, sexual, racial), or any material specifically prohibited by Federal, State, or local law.
- c. Attempt to illegally access files, data, or accounts.
- d. Activities which interfere with student and staff access to network resources.
- e. Working (or attempting to work) from network accounts not assigned to you.
- f. Sharing your password or account with others.
- g. Deliberately or intentionally damaging hardware or software.
- h. Use of technology resources for social networking, on-line shopping, or other non-school related uses.

## **Other**

- a. Users must comply with all existing District policies as they may be interpreted to apply to technology resources, including, but not limited to the following: Student Conduct and Discipline, Copyright, Selection Policy, and Sexual Harassment.
- b. Network Security Protocols - Changing Passwords: All staff that has an account on the District's computer network is required to change his/her password at announced times and dates. Staff is encouraged to use good password protocols that call for a password to be a random series of numbers, letters, and symbols with some of the elements capitalized.
- c. Users must sign a consent form indicating they are aware of this policy and will abide in accordance with it.

**NOTE: Byron-Bergen Central School District's Acceptable Use Policy is subject to change.**

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**Byron-Bergen Central School  
Acceptable Use Agreement  
Student and Parent Permission Form**

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Your son/daughter is granted access to the Byron-Bergen computer network. This access includes connection to the Internet, which would connect your child with educational resources all over the world. A student and parent must sign and date an Acceptable Use Agreement. In accepting an account, your child accepts the responsibility of using the network in an appropriate manner.

As a user of the Byron-Bergen Central School District Computer Network, I have read and agreed to comply with the *Acceptable Use Policy*.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

As parent/legal guardian of the student signing above, I grant permission for my child. I understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable; therefore I agree to accept responsibility for guiding my child, and conveying to him/her appropriate standard for selecting, sharing and/or exploring information and media.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete this form and return to your child's school.**

**For School Use Only – DO NOT WRITE below this line**

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Students must sign each year to renew acknowledgement of *Acceptable Use Policy*:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____