

# **THE NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **DISTRICT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP)**

### *FOR STUDENT USE OF THE INTERNET AND THE DISTRICT'S COMPUTER NETWORK*

The Board recognizes that electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees during an Age of Information. The purpose of the Internet and the information technology network is to support research and education in and among our schools in the district, the U.S., and around the world. It provides access to unique resources and will give our students opportunities for improved independent and collaborative learning.

The use of any New Haven Public School computer must be in support of education and research and must be consistent with the educational objectives of the New Haven Public School District. Transmission of any material in violation of school policy, local, state or federal regulations is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Accessing, displaying or sending offensive messages or pictures
- Using impolite, profane, rude, vulgar, offensive, disrespectful, or abusive language.
- Harassing, insulting, threatening or attacking others, including, but not limited to, sexual harassment
- Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another's password
- Trespassing in another's folders, work or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes

Violations of Internet or network use may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action. School rules for student conduct (Board Policy 5131a/b) and communications apply (Board Policy 5145.2a/b). A representative of the New Haven Public School District may review any material on user accounts and monitor server space in order to make determinations on appropriate use. The representative may close an account or prohibit student access to the network at any time.

The Board expects that staff will blend thoughtful use of the Internet and the information technology network throughout the curriculum and that the staff will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of such resources. Staff will consult the guidelines for instructional materials contained in Board Policy 6161 and will honor the goals for selection of instructional materials contained therein.

Independent student use of telecommunications and electronic information resources will be permitted upon submission of permission forms and agreement forms by parents of minor students (under 18 years of age) and by students themselves. All users will be expected to sign an acceptable use policy, which outlines standards for behavior and communication.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to prepare appropriate procedures for implementing this policy.