

## **R. G. DRAGE CAREER TECHNICAL CENTER**

### **COMPUTER NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY AND AGREEMENT FOR STUDENTS**

The Stark County Vocational School District is pleased to make available to students access to interconnected computer systems within the district and to the Internet, the world-wide network that provides various means of accessing significant educational materials and opportunities.

In order for the school district to be able to continue to make its computer network and Internet access available, all students must take responsibility for appropriate and lawful use of this access. Students must understand that one student's misuse of the network and Internet access may jeopardize the ability of all students to enjoy such access. While the school's teachers and other staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise student use of network and Internet access, they must have student cooperation in exercising and promoting responsible use of this access.

Below is the Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement ("Policy and Agreement") of the school district and the data acquisition site that provides Internet access to the school district. Upon reviewing, signing, and returning this Policy and Agreement, as the students have been directed, each student will be given the opportunity to enjoy Internet access at school and is agreeing to follow the Policy and Agreement. If a student is under 18 years of age, he or she must have his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) read and sign the Policy and Agreement. The school district cannot provide access to any student who, if 18 or older, fails to sign and submit the Policy and Agreement to the school as directed or, if under 18, does not return the Policy and Agreement as directed with the signatures of the student and his or her parent(s) guardian(s).

#### **1. Personal Responsibility**

By signing this Policy and Agreement, you are agreeing not only to follow the rules in this Policy and Agreement, but are agreeing to report any misuse of the network to the person designated by the school for such reporting. Misuse means any violations of this Policy and Agreement or any other use that is not included in the Policy and Agreement, but has the effect of harming another or his or her property.

#### **2. Term of the Permitted Use**

A student who submits to the school, as directed, a properly signed Policy and Agreement and follows the Policy and Agreement to which he or she has agreed will have computer network and Internet access during the course of the school year only. Students will be asked to sign a new Policy and Agreement each year during which they are students in the school district before they are given an access account.

#### **3. Purpose and Use**

- a. The school district is providing access to its computer networks and the Internet for only educational purposes. If you have any doubt about whether a contemplated activity is educational, you may consult with the person(s) designated by the school to help you decide if use is appropriate.
- b. Netiquette – all users must abide by rules of network etiquette, which include:
  - i. Be polite. Use appropriate language. No swearing, vulgarities, suggestive, obscene, belligerent, or threatening language.

- ii. Be safe. In using the computer network and Internet, do not reveal personal information such as your home address and telephone number. Do not arrange a face-to-face meeting with someone you “meet” on the computer network or Internet, if you are under 18, without parental permission; and, regardless of age, in a secluded place or in a private setting.
- iii. Among uses that are considered unacceptable and constitute a violation of this Policy and Agreement are: Uses that are offensive to others. Don’t use access to make ethnic, sexual preference, or gender-related slurs or jokes.
- iv. Uses that violate the law or encourage others to violate the law. Don’t transmit offensive or harassing messages; offer for sale or use any substance the possession or use of which is prohibited by the school district’s Pupil Conduct Code; view, transmit or download pornographic materials or materials that encourage others to violate the law; intrude into the networks or computers of others; and download or transmit confidential, trade secret information, or copyrighted materials. Even if materials on the networks are not marked with the copyright symbol, you should assume that all materials are protected unless there is explicit permission on the materials to use them.
- v. Uses that cause harm to others or damage to their property. For example, don’t engage in defamation (harming another’s reputation by lies); employ another’s password or some other use identifier that misleads message recipients into believing that someone other than you is communicating or otherwise using his or her access to the network or the Internet; upload a worm, virus, Trojans, time bombs, or other harmful programs or vandalism.
- vi. Uses that jeopardize the security of student access and of the computer network or other networks on the Internet. For example, don’t disclose or share your password with others; impersonate another.
- vii. Uses that access controversial or offensive materials. All users and their parent(s) or guardian(s) are advised that access to the electronic network may include the potential for access to materials inappropriate for school-aged pupils. Every user must take responsibility for his or her use of the computer network and Internet and stay away from these sites. Parents or guardians of minors are the best guide to materials to shun. If a student finds that other users are visiting offensive or harmful sites, he or she should report such use to the person(s) designated by the school.
- viii. Uses that are commercial transactions. Students may not sell or buy anything over the Internet. You should not give others private information about you or others, including credit card numbers and social security numbers.

#### **4. Privacy**

Network and Internet access is provided as a tool for your education. The school district reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store at any time and without prior notice any and all usage of the computer network and Internet access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such information files shall be and remain the property of the school district and no user shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

#### **5. Failure to Follow Policy and Breach of Agreement**

The user’s use of the computer network and Internet is a privilege, not a right. A user who violates this policy and breaches his or her Agreement shall, at a minimum, have his or her access to the computer network and Internet terminated. The school district may refuse to reinstate access for the remainder of

the student's tenure in the school district. A user breaches his or her Agreement not only by affirmatively violating the above Policy and Agreement, but also by failing to report any violations by other users that come to the attention of the user. Further, a user violates this Policy and Agreement if he or she permits another to use his or her account or password to access the computer network and Internet, including any user whose access has been denied or terminated. The school district may take other disciplinary action.

#### **6. Warranties/Indemnification**

The school district makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, in connection with its provision of access to and use of its computer networks and the Internet provided under this Policy and Agreement. It shall not be responsible for any claims, losses, damages, or costs (including attorney's fees) of any kind suffered, directly or indirectly, by a user or his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) arising out of the user's use of its computer networks or the Internet under this Policy and Agreement. By signing this Policy and Agreement, the user is taking full responsibility for his or her use, and the user who is 18 or older or, in the case of a user under 18, the parent(s) or guardian(s) are agreeing to indemnify and hold the school, the school district, the data acquisition site that provides the computer and Internet access opportunity to the school district and all of the administrators, teachers and staff harmless from any and all loss, costs, claims, or damages resulting from the user's access to its computer network and the Internet, including but not limited to any fees or charges incurred through purchases of goods or services by the user. The user or if the user is a minor, the user's parent(s) or guardian(s) agree to cooperate with the school in the event of the school's initiating an investigation of a user's use of his or her access to its computer network and the Internet, whether that use is on a school computer or on another's outside the school district's network

#### **7. Updates**

Users and, if appropriate, the user's parent(s) or guardian(s), may be asked from time to time to provide new or additional registration and account information or to sign a new Policy and Agreement, for example, to reflect developments in the law or technology. Such information must be provided by the user, or his or her parent(s) or guardian(s), or such new Policy and Agreement must be signed if the user wishes to continue to receive service. If, after you have provided your account information, some or all of the information changes, you must notify the person(s) designated by the school to receive such information.

**DIRECTIONS:** After reading the Stark County Area Vocational School District Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement, please complete the appropriate portions of the following contract completely and legibly. The signature of a parent or guardian is required if under 18. Please return the contract to your instructor. If you have any questions, please address these to your instructor.

**STUDENT AGREEMENT** (*every student, regardless of age, must read and sign below*):

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the terms of the foregoing Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement. Should I commit any violation or in any way misuse my access to the school district's computer network and the Internet, I understand and agree that my access privileges may be revoked and school disciplinary action may be taken against me.

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Student Name (print clearly) Home Telephone

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Program (print clearly)

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User Signature Date

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Street Address City Zip

**USER**, place an "x" in the correct blank: I am **18 or older** \_\_\_\_\_ I am **UNDER 18** \_\_\_\_\_

If I am signing this Policy and Agreement when I am under 18, I understand that when I turn 18, this Policy and Agreement will continue to be in full force and effect and agree to abide by this Policy and Agreement.  
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**PARENT OR GUARDIAN NETWORK USAGE AGREEMENT** (*to be read and signed by parent(s) or guardian(s) of students who are UNDER 18 years of age*):

As the parent or legal guardian of this student, I have read, understand, and agree that my child or ward shall comply with the terms of the school district's Acceptable Use Policy and Agreement for the students' access to the school district's computer network and the Internet. I understand that access is being provided to the students for educational purposes only. However, I also understand that it is impossible for the school to restrict access to all offensive and controversial materials and understand my child's or ward's responsibility for abiding by the Policy and Agreement. I am therefore signing this Policy and Agreement and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the school, the school district, and the data acquisition site that provides the opportunity to the school district for computer network and Internet access against all claims, damages, losses and costs, of whatever kind, that may result from my child's or ward's use of his or her access to such networks or his or her violation of the foregoing Policy and Agreement. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision of my child's or ward's use of his or her access account if and when such access is not in the school setting. I hereby give permission for my child or ward to use the building-approved account to access the school district's computer network and the Internet.

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Parent/Guardian (print clearly) Telephone

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date

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Street Address City Zip