



Barnard • Bridgewater • Killington • Pomfret • Reading • Woodstock • Woodstock Union Middle/High

G-11

**WINDSOR CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION  
INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP)  
APPLYING TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKED  
COMPUTER SERVICES**

**POLICY**

The Board of Directors of Windsor Central Supervisory Union recognizes the importance and the significant educational benefits of access to information technology and to networked computer services. The purpose of providing access to the Internet and other electronic information resources is to support the schools' mission as well as support the judicious use and consumption of internet content in order to (1) enrich the curriculum, (2) allow students to benefit from access to electronic information resources and opportunities for collaboration that are uniquely provided by certain electronic technologies, and (3) enhance staff professional development.

Windsor Central Supervisory Union Schools shall work to ensure Internet safety for minors by taking steps that include (1) monitoring the online activities of minors and (2) operating technology protection measures on all of its computers with Internet access (including those computers not accessible to minors) that protect against the acquisition of material inappropriate to minors, including but not limited to materials that (a) are obscene, (b) represent child pornography or (c) may otherwise be harmful to minors.<sup>1 & 2</sup>

In spite of the implementation of federally required filtering (technology protection measures), a user may happen upon inappropriate sites. Therefore, users must exercise good judgment when accessing specific sites. It is the intent of this policy that all users will access materials and information in a responsible and ethical manner.

Accessing electronic information resources using networked computer services or any electronic device on the campus of Windsor Central Supervisory Union Schools in an inappropriate manner may result in restriction of access, disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution.

The district shall cooperate to the extent legally required with local, state and federal officials in any investigation concerning or related to the misuse of the district's electronic resources, including the Internet that may result in illegal activity.<sup>3</sup>

The Superintendent or his or her designee will be responsible for establishing procedures governing access to and use of information technology and networked computer services consistent with the provisions of this policy. The procedures will address use by faculty, staff, and guest users, as well as students.

In addition, the Superintendent or his or her designee shall conduct an annual analysis of the implementation of this policy, the Network/Computer Use - Terms and Conditions and the Acceptable

Use Agreement and shall make recommendations to the Board as needed to ensure that the District’s approach to Internet safety is effective.

Furthermore, the Superintendent or his or her designee shall ensure that the district, as part of its implementation of this policy, is educating minors about appropriate on-line behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.<sup>4</sup>

Finally, the superintendent or his or her designee shall ensure that Internet service providers and other contractors be contractually obliged to non-disclosure of personally identifiable information related to user accounts and comply with all applicable restrictions on the collection and disclosure of student data and any other confidential information stored in District electronic resources.

All users will be required to sign the Acceptable Use Agreement indicating their knowledge and acceptance of this policy and their intention to comply with its requirements (including Network/Computer Use Terms and Conditions) prior to being granted unsupervised access to District electronic resources.

This policy is intended to ensure compliance with the requirements of applicable federal and state laws that regulate the provision of access to the internet and other electronic resources by school districts.

**LIABILITY**

Windsor Central Supervisory Union Schools are not liable for unacceptable use or violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, user mistakes or negligence, and costs incurred by users. Windsor Central Supervisory Union Schools are not responsible for ensuring the accuracy, age appropriateness, or usability of any information found on their electronic resources network including the Internet. Windsor Central Supervisory Union Schools make no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, for the use of information technology and/or networked computer services the schools provide. The schools shall not be held responsible for any damages users incur, including, but not limited to, loss of data or interruption of service.

<b><u>Unit:Board of:</u></b>	<u>Warned</u>	<u>Adopted</u>	<b><u>Unit Board of:</u></b>	<u>Warned</u>	<u>Adopted</u>
<b>Barnard</b>	Jan 8, 2013	Feb. 5, 2013	<b>Bridgewater</b>	Jan. 8 2013	Feb 5, 2013
<b>Pomfret</b>	Feb 25, 2013		<b>Reading</b>	Jan. 21, 2013	March 18, 2013
<b>Killington</b>	Jan 25, 2013	March 22, 2013	<b>Woodstock</b>	Jan. 14, 2013	March 11, 2013
<b>WUHSMS</b>	Oct. 10, 2012	Nov. 14, 2012			

Legal Reference(s)	
	17 U.S.C. §§101-120 (Federal Copyright Act of 1976 as amended)
	20 U.S.C. § 6777 <i>et seq.</i> (Enhancing Education Through Technology Act)
	18 U.S.C. §2251 (Federal Child Pornography Law—Sexual Exploitation and Other Abuse of Children)
	47 U.S.C. §254 (Children’s Internet Protection Act) 47 CFR §54.520 (CIPA Certifications)
	13 V.S.A. §§2802 <i>et seq.</i> (Obscenity, minors) 13 V.S.A. § 1027 (Disturbing Peace by Use of...Electronic Means) 13 V.S.A. §2605(Voyeurism)
Cross	Student Conduct and Discipline (F1)

<i>Reference:</i>	
	<i>Copyrights (G2)</i>
	<i>Selection of Instructional Materials (G5)</i>
	<i>Complaints About Instructional Materials (G6)</i>

**Footnotes**

<sup>1</sup>47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(B)

<sup>2</sup>20 U.S.C. § 6777(a)(2)(A); 47 U.S.C. § 254

<sup>3</sup>See 13 V.S.A. §§ 2802b and 1027 for examples of criminal activities involving electronic resources.

<sup>4</sup>Required by 47 U.S.C. § 254(h)(5)(B)

**Definitions.** As used in this policy, the following terms shall be defined in accord with federal and, where the context clearly allows, state law.

- 1. Child Pornography** means any visual depiction, including any photograph, film, video, picture, or computer or computer-generated image or picture, whether made or produced by electronic, mechanical, or other means, of sexually explicit conduct, where:
  - a The production of such visual depiction involves the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct;
  - b Such visual depiction is a digital image, computer image, or computer-generated image that is, or is indistinguishable from, that of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct; or
  - c Such visual depiction has been created, adapted, or modified to appear that an identifiable minor is engaging in sexually explicit conduct.<sup>1</sup>
- 2 Harmful to minors** means any picture, image, graphic image file or other visual depiction that:
  - a Taken as a whole, with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex or excretion;
  - b Depicts, describes or represents in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
  - c Taken as a whole lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors.<sup>2</sup>
- 3 Technology protection measure** means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or harmful to minors.<sup>3</sup>
- 4 Minor** means an individual who has not attained the age of 18.<sup>4</sup>
- 5 Computer** means any hardware, software, or other technology attached or connected to, installed in, or otherwise used in connection with a computer.<sup>5</sup>
- 6 Access to Internet** means a computer that is equipped with a modem or is connected to a computer network that has access to the Internet.<sup>6</sup>

**Footnotes**

<sup>1</sup>18 U.S.C. § 2256. See, 13 V.S.A. § 2801(6) for the state definition of this term. Federal law requires the use of the federal definition in this policy.

<sup>2</sup>Federal law defines “minor” as a person who has not yet attained the age of 17. 20 U.S.C. § 6777; 47 U.S.C. § 254. Vermont’s anti-obscenity law defines the term “minor” as “any person less than 18 years old.” 13 V.S.A. § 2801(1). The Vermont definition is used in this policy as it includes the federal requirement and also provides coverage for students until they reach the age of 18.

<sup>3</sup>47 U.S.C. § 254

<sup>4</sup>See footnote 2 above.

<sup>5</sup>20 U.S.C. § 6777(e)(1)

<sup>6</sup>20 U.S.C. § 6777(e)(2)

**Windsor Central Supervisory Union  
Network/Computer Use: Terms and Conditions<sup>1</sup>**

**Windsor Central Supervisory Union Schools will provide individuals with the opportunity to use networked computer services if they (or in the case of minors, their parents) agree to the Internet Acceptable Use Policy and the Terms and Conditions.**

**The digital devices, networks, and software in schools are to be used only for educational purposes and activities. All of the communication and information within the digital devices, networks, and software in schools shall not be considered private.**

**While using these tools, students, teachers, and staff members will act as responsible digital citizens. A responsible digital citizen is one who:**

- **Respects Oneself.**
  - **Maintains appropriate standards of language and behavior when accessing information**
  - **Refrains from distributing personally identifiable information<sup>1</sup>**
  
- **Respects Others.**
  - **Refrains from using technologies to bully, tease or harass other people.**
  - **Will report incidents of cyber bullying and harassment in accordance with the district's**
  - **Will also refrain from using another person's system account or password or from**
  
- **Protects Oneself and Others.**
  - **Protects oneself and others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate materials**
  
- **Respects and Protects Intellectual Property.**
  - **Suitably cites any and all use of websites, books, media, etc.**
  - **Requests to use the software and media others produce.**
  
- **Respects and Protects Property.**
  - **Cares for the devices that are owned by the school.**
  - **Immediately reports any damage to a technician or an administrator.**

**Failure to abide by these terms and conditions will result in disciplinary action, and in some cases, certain actions may be subject to criminal prosecution.**

---

<sup>1</sup> **For the purposes of these terms and conditions, "personally identifiable information" shall not include any information**

**WINDSOR CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION**

**INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (name), understand and will abide by the WCSU Acceptable Use Policy and the Network/Computer Use - Terms and Conditions. I further understand that any violation of the policy will result in disciplinary action, restriction of access to networked computer services, and may constitute a criminal offense resulting in legal action.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian (in case of minors):

As the parent/guardian of the above student, I grant permission for him/her to access networked computer services. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations of the Acceptable Use Policy and the criteria outlined in the Network/Computer Use - Terms and Conditions. I acknowledge that some materials accessible via networked computer services may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for helping to guide my child's actions when selecting, sharing or exploring information and media.

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_