

WCCS LAN and Internet Policy/Contract

WCCS now has high speed Internet access on some of the computers in the Computer Lab. We are excited about the resources which will now be available to our students and staff. Much of the newer curriculum places materials and activities on the Internet making web access a necessity not an option.

To keep our students and the information on our network safe, we have equipped the web accessible computers with filtering software, to prevent access to harmful websites, as well as a corporate level anti-virus/network protection package to protect our LAN (Local Area Network)* from viruses, hackers etc.

With this added privilege also comes additional responsibility for the staff and students. For this reason we have drawn up a LAN and Internet Usage Policy which is to be signed by students and their parents. We want to assure parents of elementary students that they will never be left unattended in the Computer Lab. High School students however, with permission from a staff member, are allowed to use the lab independently.

Please carefully read the WCCS LAN and Internet Policy/Contract. We will be meeting with all the grades that use the Computer Lab to explain this new policy. If you have questions, please email them to the school (wccs@kinzua.net) or write them down and send them into the office. We will then draw up a letter of clarification to send out to our families.

*LAN refers to the networked computers and equipment within the WCCS building. This is not the Internet.

The following article is not intended as legal advice. It is only a general, easy to understand explanation of areas of law governing computers and their use. It was copied directly from wikipedia.org; the reference is cited below.

There is *intellectual property* in general, including *copyright*, rules on *fair use*, and special rules on *copy prevention* for digital media, and circumvention of such prevention schemes. The area of *software patents* is *controversial*, and still evolving in Europe and elsewhere.

The related topics of *software licenses*, *end user license agreements*, *free software licenses* and *open-source licenses* can involve discussion of product liability, professional liability of individual developers, warranties, contract law, trade secrets and intellectual property. As of early 2004, open-source licenses have not been tested in the courts.

In various countries, areas of the computing and communication industries are regulated - often strictly - by government bodies.

There are rules on the uses to which computers and computer networks may be put, in particular there are rules on *unauthorized access*, *data privacy* and *spamming*. There are also limits on the use of *encryption* and of equipment which may be used to defeat copy prevention schemes. The export of Hardware and Software between certain states is also controlled.

There are laws governing trade on the Internet, taxation, consumer protection, and advertising.

There are laws on censorship versus freedom of expression, rules on public access to government information, and individual access to information held on them by private bodies. There are laws on what data must be retained for law enforcement, and what may not be gathered or retained, for privacy reasons.

In certain circumstances and jurisdictions, computer communications may be used in evidence, and to establish contracts. New methods of tapping and surveillance made possible by computers have wildly differing rules on how they may be used by law enforcement bodies and as evidence in court.

Computerized voting technology, from polling machines to internet and mobile-phone voting, raise a host of legal issues.

Some states limit access to the internet, by law as well as by technical means.

The following web site has links to other articles and more documentation on laws governing computers and Internet use. Legal Aspects of Computing. (February 28, 2008). In Wikipedia [Web]. Retrieved April 7, 2008, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_law

WCCS LAN and Internet Policy/Contract

I understand and agree that:

1. All WCCS LAN and Internet activity must conform to the policies and standards of the school. In other words if an activity is prohibited in the Student Handbook it is also prohibited on a computer.
2. The use of the school's LAN and Internet access is a privilege not a right and is only to be used for educational or school related purposes.
3. I understand that if I abuse my privileges I may lose my right to use the Internet, LAN and stand-alone computers. I may also be subject to major disciplinary measures.
4. I am not to give my password to anyone or allow others to use my computer after I have logged onto the LAN.
5. I am not to change in anyway another person's work that is stored on the LAN or any stand alone computer.
6. I understand that I am not to download or upload any files from the Internet unless approved by a staff member. **DOWNLOADED FILES ARE NEVER TO BE SAVED ONTO THE LAN SERVER.**
7. All files brought from home must be scanned with anti-virus software before being opened.
8. I must always ask for permission to access the Internet even when there is a staff member present.
9. I am not to attempt to access or the learn passwords for the configuration and control of any software or computer on the school's LAN. If at anytime I unintentionally discover any of these passwords or a back-door to the LAN or Internet configuration I will immediately report this to whomever is in charge at the time.
10. I understand that I will be closely supervised while on the Internet and will accept the supervising staff member's guidelines. If for any reason I am on the Internet without a staff member present I will still abide by all the rules in this contract and what is acceptable for a WCCS student.
11. I will make available for inspection any files and data transmitted or received while on the LAN or Internet at WCCS.
12. I am not to access social networking sites, chat rooms, email, game sites, software download sites or music download sites unless these are in conjunction with a class room assignment and I am directly supervised by a staff member.
13. I agree not to upload or download any executable files onto any computer at the school. (Executable files cause a program/software to run or be installed on a computer.)
14. I am not to give out any personal information (this includes but is not limited to text and any form of digital media) concerning myself, any other person or give the location of the school.

15. I will notify the supervising staff member immediately if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable and/or is inappropriate for a Christian honoring person. (All Internet access is filtered.)
16. I agree to not use the computer resources for any commercial or illegal activity. This includes but is not limited to: violating copyright laws, unauthorized access, spamming, bullying or defamation and I will abide by all state and federal laws governing illegal use of computers and the Internet.**
17. I agree to not knowingly introduce or create any computer virus or worm on the LAN.

I have read the WCCS LAN and Internet Contract and understand that the school wants to make a safe and appropriate educational environment for me and all persons who use the WCCS LAN and Internet. I understand that my behavior in all areas connected with WCCS should reflect a Christ like character. **I agree to all terms in the LAN and Internet Contract**

Student Name (Please Print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

**We understand that a student will not have complete understanding of the laws which govern computer activity. A good rule of use is, if an activity is illegal in any other area of life it is illegal on the computer, such as copying copyrighted material, plagiarism, breaking and entering etc.