

# POLICY

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53  
(Okanagan Similkameen)**

**Reference:** E-3

**Approved:** October 15, 1997

## INTERNET ACCESS AND USE

The Internet, a global electronic information infrastructure, is a network of networks used by educators, businesses, the government, the military, and organizations. In schools and libraries, the Internet can be used to educate, to inform, and to entertain. As a learning resource, the Internet is similar to books, magazines, video, CD-ROM, and other information. The Board recognizes the educational value of accessing the Internet by students and staff and encourages its use.

Students and staff use the Internet to participate in distance learning activities, to ask questions of and consult with experts, to communicate with other individuals, and to locate material to meet their educational and personal information needs. School library media specialists and teachers have a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the intellectual skills needed to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use information to meet their educational goals.

Because the Internet is a fluid environment, the information which will be available to students and staff is constantly changing; therefore, it is impossible to predict with certainty what information might be located. Just as the purchase, availability, and use of media materials do not indicate endorsement of their contents by school officials, neither does making electronic information available to students and staff imply endorsement of that content.

The networking environment requires guidelines for student and staff exploration and use of electronic information resources. Such guidelines address issues of privacy, ethical use of information with respect to intellectual property, using the networks for illegal activities, or knowingly spreading embedded messages or other computer programs that have the potential of damaging or destroying programs or data.

# **REGULATION**

## **SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53**

### **(Okanagan Similkameen)**

**Reference:** E-3  
**Approved:** October 15, 1997

#### **INTERNET ACCESS AND USE**

1. Use of School District No. 53 NET shall be solely for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of information in furtherance of education and research, and will be consistent with the purposes and objectives of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen), and other members of School District No. 53 NET.
2. A School District No. 53 NET user shall not purposefully transmit, download, or access information where the message or its distribution would violate any applicable law or regulation. The information shall not pertain to the preparation, assembly, use, and/or distribution of explosives/weapons of all types or be obscene, pornographic, abusive, discriminatory, violent, defamatory, racial, intimidating or otherwise likely to be offensive.
3. Transmitting, downloading or accessing any of the above will result in discipline as reflected in district and/or school policies. Specifically, where violent, intimidating or explosives/weapons-related material is transmitted, downloaded or accessed, the Weapons, Violence, and Intimidation Policy will apply.
4. Users of School District No. 53 NET shall promote efficient use of the public networks to minimize, and avoid if possible, congestion of the networks and interference with the work of other network users. Further, users of School District No. 53 NET services shall respect the rights and property of others and shall not improperly access, misappropriate or misuse the information or files of other users.
5. School District No. 53 NET shall not be used for commercial or entrepreneurial purposes. Advertising of commercial or entrepreneurial offerings is forbidden.
6. Security on any computer system is a high priority. No one may use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to School District No. 53 NET.
7. Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and may result in further legal action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet or other networks connected to School District No. 53 NET. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.
8. Any use of School District No. 53 NET that accesses sources beyond School District No. 53 NET itself shall conform to the Acceptable Use Policies of those other sources.
9. Interpretation, application, and modification of this Acceptable Use Policy shall be within the sole discretion of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen).

# SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 NET STUDENT ACCESS RELEASE FORM



As a condition of the opportunity to use the School District No. 53 Net, I understand and agree to the following:

1. That access to network services on School District No. 53 Net is a privilege which may be revoked by School District No. 53 and administrators of School District No. 53 at any time for abusive conduct or violation of conditions of use. Abusive conduct includes, but is not limited to:
  - Purposefully transmitting, downloading, or accessing information where the message or its distribution would violate any applicable law or regulation. The information shall not pertain to the preparation, assembly, use, and/or distribution of explosives/weapons of all types or be obscene, pornographic, abusive, discriminatory, violent, defamatory, racial, intimidating or otherwise likely to be offensive.
  - Transmitting, downloading or accessing any of the above will result in discipline as reflected in district and/or school policies. Specifically, where violent, intimidating or explosives/weapons-related material is transmitted, downloaded or accessed, the Weapons, Violence and Intimidation Policy will apply.
  - Improperly accessing or misusing the files of other users,

School District No. 53 will be the sole arbiter of what constitutes abusive conduct. Disciplinary action may result, in addition to loss of privilege. Policies on student conduct and discipline will be followed.

2. School District No. 53 has the right to review any material stored on the network and to remove any material which, in its sole discretion, believes may be unlawful, obscene, pornographic, abusive, discriminatory, violent, defamatory, racial, intimidating, or otherwise offensive or objectionable. I hereby waive any right of privacy which I may otherwise have in and to such material.
3. That all information and services contained on the School District No. 53 Net is placed there for general information purposes and is, in no way intended to refer to, or be applicable to, any specific person, case, or situation.
4. School District No. 53 will not be liable for any damages due to information gained and/or obtained via use of School District No. 53 Net, including, without limitation, access to public networks.
5. School District No. 53 does not guarantee that the School District No. 53 Net will be error-free or that services will be uninterrupted. School District No. 53 will not be liable for any loss of data or other consequences if there is a malfunction of the network.
6. To abide by such rules and regulations or usage conditions as may be announced from time to time by the District including, without limitation, the Network Acceptable Use Policy, the current release of which is found on the back of this paper.
7. In consideration of the privilege of using School District No. 53 Net, I hereby release the District and any institutions with which it is affiliated from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my use, or inability to use, School District No. 53 Net including without limitation, the type of damages identified in number 4 and 5 above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of User

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of User

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grade Level/School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Requested Password

## **OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN EDUCATIONAL NETWORK (School District No. 53 NET)**

### **ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY**

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1. Use of School District No. 53 NET shall be solely for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of information in furtherance of education and research, and otherwise be consistent with the purposes and objectives of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen), and other members of School District No. 53 NET.
2. A School District No. 53 NET user shall not transmit any communication where the meaning of the message, or its transmission or distribution, would violate any applicable law or regulation. The transmission shall not be obscene, pornographic, abusive, discriminatory, violent, defamatory, racial, intimidating or otherwise likely to be offensive or objectionable to the recipients or recipients thereof.
3. A School District No. 53 NET user shall not download or access obscene, pornographic, abusive, discriminatory, violent, defamatory, racial, intimidating or otherwise likely to be offensive or objectionable material.
4. Users of School District No. 53 NET shall promote efficient use of the public networks to minimize, and avoid if possible, congestion of the networks and interference with the work of other network users. Further, users of School District No. 53 NET services shall respect the rights and property of others and shall not improperly access, misappropriate or misuse the information or files of other users.
5. School District No. 53 NET shall not be used for commercial or entrepreneurial purposes. Advertising of commercial or entrepreneurial offerings is forbidden.
6. Security on any computer system is a high priority. No one may use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to School District No. 53 NET.
7. Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and may result in further legal action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet or other networks connected to School District No. 53 NET. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.
8. Any use of School District No. 53 NET that accesses sources beyond School District No. 53 NET itself shall conform to the Acceptable Use Policies of those other sources.
9. Interpretation, application, and modification of this Acceptable Use Policy shall be within the sole discretion of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen).

Questions about any issue arising under this Policy should be directed to School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen), Superintendent of Schools.

# SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 53 NET STAFF ACCESS RELEASE FORM



As a condition of the opportunity to use the electronic data network at our Schools, including the Internet, I understand and agree with the following:

1. That access to network services on School District No. 53 Net is a privilege which may be revoked by School District No. 53 and administrators of School District No. 53 at any time for abusive conduct or violation of conditions of use. Abusive conduct includes, but is not limited to:
  - Purposefully transmitting, downloading, or accessing information where the message or its distribution would violate any applicable law or regulation. The information shall not pertain to the preparation, assembly, use, and/or distribution of explosives/weapons of all types or be obscene, pornographic, abusive, discriminatory, violent, defamatory, racial, intimidating or otherwise likely to be offensive.
  - Transmitting, downloading or accessing any of the above will result in discipline as reflected in district and/or school policies. Specifically, where violent, intimidating or explosives/weapons-related material is transmitted, downloaded or accessed, the Weapons, Violence and Intimidation Policy will apply.
  - Improperly accessing or misusing the files of other users,

School District No. 53 will be the sole arbiter of what constitutes abusive conduct. Disciplinary action may result, in addition to loss of privilege.

2. School District No. 53 has the right to review any material stored on the network and to remove any material which, in its sole discretion, believes may be unlawful, obscene, pornographic, abusive, discriminatory, violent, defamatory, racial, intimidating or otherwise objectionable. I hereby waive any right of privacy which I may otherwise have in and to such material.
3. That all information and services contained on the School District No. 53 Net is placed there for general information purposes and is, in no way intended to refer to, or be applicable to, any specific person, case, or situation.
4. School District No. 53 will not be liable for any damages due to information gained and/or obtained via use of School District No. 53 Net, including, without limitation, access to public networks.
5. School District No. 53 does not guarantee that the School District No. 53 Net will be error-free or that services will be uninterrupted. School District No. 53 will not be liable for any loss of data or other consequences if there is a malfunction of the network.
6. To abide by such rules and regulations or usage conditions as may be announced from time to time by the District including, without limitation, the Network Acceptable Use Policy, the current release of which is found on the back of this paper.
7. In consideration for the privilege of using School District No. 53 Net, I hereby release the District and any institutions with which it is affiliated from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my use, or inability to use, School District No. 53 Net including without limitation, the type of damages identified in number 4 and 5 above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Staff User

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Staff user

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Requested Password

## OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN EDUCATIONAL NETWORK (School District No. 53 NET)

### ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

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1. Use of School District No. 53 NET shall be solely for the purpose of facilitating the exchange of information in furtherance of education and research, and otherwise be consistent with the purposes and objectives of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen), and other members of School District No. 53 NET.
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4. Users of School District No. 53 NET shall promote efficient use of the public networks to minimize, and avoid if possible, congestion of the networks and interference with the work of other network users. Further, users of School District No. 53 NET services shall respect the rights and property of others and shall not improperly access, misappropriate or misuse the information or files of other users.
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7. Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and may result in further legal action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet or other networks connected to School District No. 53 NET. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.
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9. Interpretation, application, and modification of this Acceptable Use Policy shall be within the sole discretion of School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen).

Questions about any issue arising under this Policy should be directed to School District No. 53 (Okanagan Similkameen), Superintendent of Schools.