SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES

The Board of Cooperative Educational Services will provide access to various Technology resources through its Instructional Technology Services division (ITS hereafter) Technology resources include software, hardware, and communications networks. This may include access to electronic mail, so-called "on-line services" and the "Internet." It may include the opportunity for some students to have independent access to ITS from remote locations. All use of the ITS, including independent use off school premises, shall be subject to this policy and accompanying regulations. Further, all such use must be in support of education and/or research and consistent with the goals and purposes of BOCES**.**

Access to Inappropriate Content/Material and Use of Personal Technology or Electronic Devices

This policy is intended to establish general guidelines for the acceptable student use of the ITS and also to give students and parents/guardians notice that student use of the ITS will provide student access to external computer networks not controlled by the BOCES. The BOCES cannot screen or review all of the available content or materials on these external computer networks. Thus some of the available content or materials on these external networks may be deemed unsuitable for student use or access by parents/guardians.

Despite the existence of BOCES policy, regulations and guidelines, it is virtually impossible to completely prevent access to content or material that may be considered inappropriate for students. Students may have the ability to access such content or material from their home, other locations off school premises and/or with a student's own personal technology or electronic device on school grounds or at school events. Parents and guardians must be willing to establish boundaries and standards for the appropriate and acceptable use of technology and communicate these boundaries and standards to their children. The appropriate/acceptable use standards outlined in this policy apply to student use of technology via the ITS or any other electronic media or communications, including by means of a student's own personal technology or electronic device on school grounds or at school events.

Student use of the ITS is conditioned upon written agreement by all students and their parents/guardians that student use of the ITS will conform to the requirements of this policy and any regulations adopted to insure acceptable use of the ITS. All such agreements shall be kept in the students' file during their active enrollment.

Generally, the same standards of acceptable student conduct which apply to any school activity shall apply to use of the ITS. This policy does not attempt to articulate all required and/or acceptable uses of the ITS; nor is it the intention of this policy to define all inappropriate usage. Administrative regulations will further define general guidelines of appropriate student conduct and use as well as proscribed behavior.

SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF COMPUTERIZED INFORMATION RESOURCES (Cont'd.)

BOCES students shall also adhere to the laws, policies and rules governing computers including, but not limited to, copyright laws, rights of software publishers, license agreements, and student rights of privacy created by federal and state law.

Students who engage in unacceptable use may lose access to the ITS, in accordance with applicable due process procedures, and may be subject to further discipline under BOCES school conduct and discipline policy and the Student Discipline Code of Conduct. BOCES reserves the right to pursue legal action against a student who willfully, maliciously or unlawfully damages or destroys property of BOCES. Further, BOCES may bring suit in civil court against the parents/guardians of any student who willfully, maliciously or unlawfully damages or destroys BOCES property pursuant to General Obligations Law Section 3-112.

Student data files and other electronic storage areas will be treated like school lockers. This means that such areas shall be considered to be BOCES property subject to control and inspection. The computer coordinator may access all such files and communications ensure system integrity and that users are complying with the requirements of this policy and accompanying regulations. Students should **NOT** expect that information stored on the ITS will be private.

Regulations will be established as necessary to implement the terms of this policy.

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #7251-- Internet Safety/ Internet Content Filtering Policy - The Children's Internet Protection Act: Internet Content Filtering/Safety Policy

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