Post Independent School District
Policies and Guidelines for Use of the Internet By Staff

Introduction:

The Internet is a vast, global network, linking computers at universities, public and private schools, science labs, libraries, and other sites. Through the Internet, one can communicate with people all over the world through a number of discussion forums, as well as through electronic mail (E-mail). In addition, many files are available on the Internet for downloading, many of which are of tremendous educational value. Access to these resources can yield individual and group projects, collaboration, curriculum materials, and idea sharing not found in schools without Internet access. Because class, race, ability, and disability are removed as factors while using the Internet, it is a natural tool for addressing the needs of all students.

However, with such great potential also comes some potential abuse. It is the purpose of this list of guidelines, as well as the agreement for online use, to make sure that everyone uses the Post ISD Internet connection in an appropriate manner.

Purpose:

Post ISD's system will be used for educational purposes consistent with the district's mission and goals. Commercial use of the district's system is prohibited. Failure to abide by these regulations shall result in suspension of the Internet account, pending administrative review and disciplinary actions that may include, but is not limited to, the revocation of the privilege of use.

Guidelines for use:

The most important prerequisite for Post ISD faculty and staff members to receive an Internet account is that they take full responsibility for their actions. Post ISD will not be liable for the actions of anyone connecting to the Internet through this hook-up. All users shall assume full liability: legal, financial, or otherwise, for their actions.

In addition, Post ISD takes no responsibility for any information or materials that are transferred through the Internet. All data and information should be considered on its own merits on an as-is basis. The district will use a filtering service to help screen offensive material, but it is impossible to keep everything that might be offensive from entering the system.

Post ISD makes no guarantees, implied or otherwise, regarding the reliability of the data connection and will not be liable for any loss or corruption of data resulting while using the Internet connection.

Because of the size of the Internet, many kinds of materials eventually find their way onto the system. If a user is observed accessing or downloading inappropriate material (i.e. obscene messages or pictures, occult information, etc.) from the Internet, his/her privileges will be revoked.

No user shall allow other individuals to use his/her account. The employee should disclose all passwords and codes to the District. The user is not allowed to give out or share his/her password except to the District.

Post ISD reserves the right with or without the employee's knowledge to examine and inspect all District-owned computers and all data stored in the machines involved in the Internet link to make sure that all users are in compliance with these regulations. Computer/electronic communications are the property of the District. Use of District-owned computers should be limited to educational purposes. Furthermore, Post ISD reserves the right to use electronic means to track and monitor use for any legitimate business purpose.

No user shall use this telecommunication link to perform any act that may be construed as illegal or inappropriate, including the use of the link to gain access to other systems on the network.

Post ISD users shall not be involved in illegal distribution of software, otherwise known as pirating. Any users caught transferring such files through the Internet, and any whose accounts are found to contain such illegal files, shall have their accounts revoked. All users should be aware that software piracy is a federal offense and is punishable by fine or imprisonment.

All federal copyright laws apply to materials located or transferred on the Internet or other online resources.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data or equipment. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

The E-mail system of Post ISD is to be used in an appropriate manner. Users will not send chain letters. The use of the Post ISD network or computers for material/monetary gain is strictly prohibited.

Finally, all users should keep in mind that when they use the Internet, they are entering a global community, and any actions taken by them will reflect upon the school system as a whole. As such, all users must behave in an ethical and legal manner.

Post ISD administration reserves the right to change this policy at any time without notice.

Post Independent School District
Online Telecommunication Use Agreement

User name: (please print) _____

Campus: _____

User:

I understand and will abide by the **Policies and Guidelines for Use of the Internet** of Post ISD. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action may be taken.

User Signature: _____ Date: _____