

Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District	<b>INTERNET USE POLICY</b>	Policy # 6148C
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It is the policy of the Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District that students and staff will use the Internet solely for appropriate educational purposes.

A. Background:

1. Schools in the Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District have an exciting opportunity to expand learning access through Internet for students and staff. With this opportunity comes the responsibility for appropriate use.

2. The Internet is an electronic communications network, which provides vast, diverse and unique resources. The Internet is an electronic superhighway connecting hundreds of thousands of computers in more than 129 countries all over the world and millions of individual subscribers

3. The goals of Internet use are:

- § To facilitate resource sharing, accessing outside information and research.
- § To encourage technological innovation, and worldwide communication.
- § To expand the educational resources available to our students and staff.

Appropriate and creative use of the Internet will promote educational excellence in the SVRTSD.

Students and staff will have access to:

- § Worldwide electronic mail communication
- § Global information and news
- § Public domain and shareware computer software of all types
- § Discussion groups on numerous topics appropriate to school-age children and their educators, such as music, the environment, etc.
- § Access to university libraries, the Library of Congress, ERIC, etc.

	Date Drafted	Date Warned	Date Adopted
Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District	12/03/07	12/17/07	1/115/08

### Administrative Regulations:

1. With access to computers and people all over the world comes the availability of material that may not be considered educationally valuable in the context of the school setting. There may be material or individual communications which are unsuitable for school-aged children. The CDC views information gathered from the Internet in the same manner as reference materials identified by the CDC. Specifically, the CDC supports resources that will enhance the learning environment with directed guidance from the faculty and staff. However, it is impossible to control all materials on the global network. The industrious user may discover inappropriate information. Users will be expected to control their own access and are responsible for their own actions and the material they access. The CDC is not responsible and cannot be held liable for user actions or the information accessed by any user.

2. At ~~school~~, student access to and use of the Internet will be under staff direction and will be monitored as any other classroom activity

3. Internet users must adhere to direct guidelines to ensure successful Internet operation. The use shall primarily be in support of the educational goals of the CDC. Rules for copyrighted material shall be observed. It is the responsibility of the schools to maintain an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all on-line network activities by staff and students. Staff will select, evaluate, and use appropriate Internet sites to enhance the educational program.

#### 4. **Unacceptable Use**

1. Threatening or obscene materials
2. Antisocial behaviors (hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, etc.)
3. For-profit or illegal activities
4. Product advertisement or political lobbying
5. Other non-academic uses
6. Non-educational mailing lists

5. **Privilege** - The use of the Internet is a privilege not a right. Inappropriate use may result in a suspension or cancellation of that privilege, as determined by the building principal.

6. It is inappropriate in any way to interfere with others using the Internet. Interference includes but is not limited to: modifying or misusing other people's information; writing programs that harass or interfere with other's work; or attempting to gain access to using someone else's account.

7. **Netiquette** - Users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette.

1. Be polite.
2. Do not use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Do not reveal your address or phone number or those of others.
4. Do not disrupt the network or other users.
5. Attempting to log on as another individual is prohibited.
6. No pretending.

#### **8. Things to Remember**

1. Electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private. Network administrators have access to it.
2. Using all capital letters is considered yelling.

#### **9. Fee Services**

Without the express permission of a sponsoring teacher, you may not use the Internet to access any database service, or download data or software, which charges a fee for such service or access. If you do any of the foregoing, you are liable for any and all charges.

#### **10. Violations of Policy**

Teachers and administrators have the right to terminate, suspend or limit network access at any time as required in their judgment. Teachers reserve the right to edit or review files for security purposes for all students.

A student may appeal the decision of the staff member to the Director, or his/her designee. Students, faculty and staff may appeal the decision of the Director to the Regional Governing Board of Directors.

#### **11. Terms and Conditions**

These terms and conditions reflect the entire agreement of the parties and supersede all prior oral or written agreements. The SVRTSD reserve the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time. The laws of the State of Vermont, and the United States of America, and the applicable policies of the SVRTSD shall govern these terms and conditions.