

West Buffalo Charter School Student Acceptable Computer Use Policy

The Internet is a global network of networks connecting many millions of computers. The Internet is an environment of independent, unregulated resources that can change on a daily basis. This resource is used similar to the way books, magazines, newspapers and videos are used in an educational setting.

West Buffalo Charter School is preparing students for the 21st Century by offering up to date computer resources to complement the curriculum. The Internet is a valuable tool offering a vast number of resources at the click of a mouse.

It is a general expectation that the school’s resources are to be used in a reasonable, efficient, ethical, moral and legal manner in accordance with the beliefs and policies of the West Buffalo Charter School. Computer storage areas will be treated like student lockers. Administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that students are using the system responsibly. Computer use will be monitored by a teacher, but students are responsible for following the guidelines for appropriate use and bear the consequences for misuse. Assigned passwords are to be kept confidential and not shared with other students.

The following are **NOT** permitted:

- Accessing, displaying or sending pornographic or offensive material, whether written or graphic.
- Accessing, displaying or sending materials that are derogatory toward any race, religion, culture, ethnic group, gender or sexual orientation.
- Using the Internet for transmission of materials in violation of local, state or federal regulations.
- Using obscene language.
- Violating copyright laws.
- Accessing personal e-mail, instant messaging and entering chat rooms.
- Tampering, misusing, abusing or vandalizing any hardware, software, or security measures.
- Trespassing in others’ files, folders or works.
- Using disks from home at school, or disks from school at home-including floppy or CD.
- Downloading music.
- Installing software including screen savers.
- Using school resources for non-school activities.
- Accessing Social Networking sites on school equipment.

CONSEQUENCES

First Offense - Loss of computer privileges for 1 week and parental notification

Second Offense – Loss of computer privileges for 1 month and parent/Principal conference

Third Offense - Permanent loss of computer privileges for 1 year.

Violations will be referred to the Principal for disciplinary action. Law enforcement agencies will be involved when appropriate. The student will not have computer privileges unless this form is signed and dated by both student and parent.

Access is a privilege, not a right. Access implies responsibility.

I have read the policy and will conduct myself accordingly. _____
Student Signature Date

I have read the policy and will support its implementation. _____
Parent Signature Date

Please return this form to your child’s teacher ASAP.