

**PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NETWORK / INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE**

PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

Network/Internet access is available to students and teachers in the Plymouth School District. Our goal in providing this service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. We are pleased to offer this access to the district and believe the Network/Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers.

Our network and the Internet are electronic highways connecting our schools with thousands of computers all over the world and millions of people. Students and teachers have access to:

1. Email communication within our system and with people all over the world.
2. Access to district-wide resources.
3. Public domain software and shareware of all types.
4. Discussion groups on a plethora of topics.
5. Access to many University Library Catalogs, the Library of Congress and ERIC.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. The Plymouth School District has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information. The Plymouth Board of Education firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the District.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies, and regional and state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities that you are about to acquire. In general this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Plymouth School District user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

P L Y M O U T H P U B L I C S C H O O L S
NETWORK/INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

Terms and Conditions

1. **Acceptable Use** - The purpose of school network/Internet use is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the U.S. by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. The use of your account must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of the Plymouth School District. Transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to:

- copyrighted material;
- threatening or obscene material;
- material protected by trade secret;
- anything other than school-related material for educational purposes.

Use for commercial activities is not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited. The equipment used is the property of the Plymouth School District and is made available for research and educational purposes only.

2. **Privileges** - The use of the network/Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of those privileges. The Director of Technology will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. Also, the Director of Technology may close an account at any time as required. The administration, faculty, and staff of the Plymouth School District may request the Director of Technology to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user accounts for just cause.
3. **Network/Internet Etiquette** - You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
 - b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
 - c. Do not reveal personal information, such as addresses or phone numbers of yourself, other students or colleagues.
 - d. Note that electronic mail (email) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.

Terms and Conditions (Cont.)

- e. Do not use the network in such a way that you waste network resources or disrupt the use of the network by other users.
 - f. All communications and information accessible via the network should be considered the property of the Plymouth Board of Education.
 - g. If you view any material that makes you feel uncomfortable, immediately notify an administrator or the Director of Technology.
 - h. Do not engage in electronic conversations of a personal or intimate nature.
4. The Plymouth School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing, The Plymouth School District will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes, but is not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its own negligence or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. The Plymouth School District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.
5. **Security-** Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. No one may install software / hardware on the system, without the express written consent of the Director of Technology. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the network, you must notify the Director of Technology or a faculty member. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Do not use another individual's account. This is strictly prohibited. Attempts to log onto the network illegally will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the Network/Internet.
6. **Vandalism-** Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data on the system network, the Internet, or any agencies or other networks that are connected to the system network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses. It also includes the misuse or destruction of The Plymouth School District's computer hardware and/or software, or any other equipment.

NETWORK / INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

Network / Internet user

I understand and will abide by the Network / Internet Acceptable Use Policy. I further understand that any violation of the regulations is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action may be taken, and/or appropriate legal action.

User's Name: _____
(Please print)

User's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Grade: _____

(If you are under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must also read and sign this agreement.)

Parent or Guardian

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Network / Internet Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. The Plymouth School District has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for the Plymouth School to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired by the network. I hereby give permission for my child to have access to the Network / Internet and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Parent / Guardian _____
(Please print)

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SCHOOL LIBRARY