

Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District
Policy for Student, Staff and Community Use of the Internet

The Internet is a global communication network that supports research and education in and among academic institutions, by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. Through the Internet, users can communicate with users all over the planet, explore thousands of libraries, and download files and software, thus advancing and promoting world-class public education at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School.

Bay Path will provide a computer interface to Internet services that individuals should use in accessing instructional and reference material on the Internet. This Internet will be designed so that objectionable materials are not easily available; however, the Internet is designed so that all materials contained within it are accessible using various search and retrieval tools. As a result, an industrious user may discover questionable information. Bay Path firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that users may procure materials that is not consistent with the educational goals of the school. Bay Path, therefore, encourages parents to accept the responsibility for guiding their children and conveying to them appropriate standards for selecting, sharing, and/or exploring information and media.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that they are aware of their responsibilities. As a user, they are required to make efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Bay Path user violates any of these provisions, her or his account will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. In addition, school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action will be taken as warranted.

The following Internet activities are **NOT** allowed on the Bay Path computer system!

Personal e-mail and e-mail accounts from any service provider. Viewing personally created web sites or someone else's. Blogging, chat rooms, and instant messaging. Computer users should not download any music or music videos, movie trailers or videos of any type.

Internet Use – Terms and Conditions

The purpose of the Internet connection is educational only. Transmission of any material violating any U.S. or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted materials, licensing agreements, threatening materials, or materials protected by trade secret. Use for commercial activities, productive advertisement, or political lobbying is also prohibited.

Violations of generally accepted social standards for use of a publicly owned and operated communication system are prohibited. Such obscene activities include, but are not limited to, the receipt, storage, or distribution of profanity or other offensive language and sexually explicit materials including nudity and other graphic or textual depictions of sexually explicit activities.

Recreational games, chain letters, attempts to gain unauthorized access, harassment, threats, racial slurs or epithets directed to any racial group, or advocacy or the supremacy of any racial group, or any other actions that are disruptive to the network or network users are strictly prohibited.

Revealing personal information, personal addresses, financial information, or phone numbers of oneself, fellow students, or colleagues is prohibited. Any use of another's account by anyone but the authorized owner of the account is prohibited.

Internet users will be required to sign a log indicating their time of use and items researched. Student I.D. cards will be displayed on the workstation during Internet use.

The network should not be used in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by other users, nor harm other people or their work. Accordingly, users should not trespass in another's folders, work, or files, nor should they interfere with the operation of the network by installing illegal software, shareware, or freeware. Computer network users shall also be committed to the efficient use of computer networks and use all practical measures to conserve time and storage space in their use of these resources.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism is any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, Internet, or any agency or other networks. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

Staff members have the right and the responsibility to provide reasonable supervision of student use of the Internet to assure its appropriate use. E-mail may be used for educational purposes only. E-mail correspondence may be sent under the direct supervision of an instructor.

Security is a high priority on computer networks. If users identify security problems, they are to notify the network administrator immediately. If, by accident, users encounter materials that violate the terms of appropriate use, they are to report it to someone in authority. They should not display the problem to other users.

The network administrator reserves the right to examine all data stored in the machines involved in its Internet connection to ensure compliance with all regulations or policies.

The Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School District makes no guarantees regarding the reliability of its Internet connection. The school shall not be liable for any loss or corruption of data while using this Internet connection.

The Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational Technical School District will not be liable for the actions of anyone connecting to the Internet. All users shall assume full liability, legal, financial, or otherwise, for their actions.

The Superintendent or other designee of the School Committee is the final authority on the acceptable use of the networks and accounts under its jurisdiction.

Internet use is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate behavior will result in a loss of network privileges, disciplinary actions, and/or referral to legal authorities. An administrator or staff member may request the network administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user access.

The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicate(s) the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

Student Internet Use Agreement Form

I understand and will abide by the above “Policy for Student, Staff, and Community Use of the Internet.” I further understand that any violation of the terms and conditions above is unethical and may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, school disciplinary action and/or appropriate legal action will be taken as warranted.

User Name _____ Date _____

User Signature _____ User I.D. No. _____

Parent Internet Use Agreement and Permission Form

As the parent or guardian of _____,
I have read the “Policy for Student, Staff, and Community Use of the Internet.” I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. The Southern Worcester County Vocational School District has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material; however, I also recognize it is impossible for the School District to restrict access to all controversial materials and I will not hold the District responsible for materials acquired on the network. Additionally, I agree that if my child should commit any violation, her/his access privileges should be revoked, school disciplinary action should be taken, and/or appropriate legal action, as warranted.

Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

Signature _____

No, I do not give permission for my child, _____,
To use the Internet at Bay Path Regional Vocational High School.

Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____

Signature _____

PLEASE RETURN NO LATER THAN WEEK 2 OF CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR