

## **BHASD Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for Computers**

### **Reference for AUP**

This is a brief summary of the rules in place governing the behavior of both students and staff while utilizing district network resources at the Brandywine Heights Area School District. If you have questions pertaining to the AUP or its implementation, please direct your questions to the building principal.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies and regional and state networks. The smooth operation of this resource and of our own district network relies upon the proper conduct of the users who are expected to adhere to procedures and guidelines. The following general guidelines are provided so that users will be aware of the responsibilities that they are assuming. In general, this requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of all network resources. If a Brandywine Heights Area School District user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be terminated, future access suspended or denied, and disciplinary action taken. Federal law (Child Internet Protection Act – CIPA) requires the presence of a district Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), from which this information is taken. The signatures required prior to granting users authorized access to the network are legally binding and indicate that the persons who signed have read the terms and conditions specified in the AUP carefully and understand (s) their significance. BHASD provides a computer account for each student unless parents notify the school in writing that they do not wish their child to have computer access or internet access.

### **Code of Responsibility**

All users of the district network and Internet access shall read and follow the guidelines. Failure to comply with any of the guidelines may result in loss of access privileges and/or disciplinary action.

- All use of the Internet must be in support of education and consistent with the purposes of the school district.
- Any use of the network for commercial or for-profit purposes, or for personal business is strictly prohibited. Use of the network for project advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.
- Network accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose. Users shall not intentionally seek information on: obtain copies of; modify files, other data or passwords belonging to other users; or misrepresent other users on the network.
- No use of the network shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by others; hardware or software shall not be destroyed, modified, or abused in any way. Malicious use of the network to develop programs that harass other users, infiltrate a computer or computing system, and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited.
- Cyber-bullying, hate mail, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other anti-social behaviors are prohibited on the network.
- All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property.
- Use of the network to access or process pornographic material, inappropriate text files, or files dangerous to the integrity of the local area network is prohibited.
- From time to time, the Brandywine Heights Area School District will make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are consistent with acceptable use practice.
- The illegal installation of copyrighted software for use on school district computer is prohibited.
- The installation of software by any employee or student is prohibited without the permission and knowledge of the technology administrator.
- Computer software is to be considered the property of others and is protected by copyright and shall only be used in accordance with licensing agreements. Software on school computers may not be copied for personal use or for distribution. Copies of software may not be given, sold, or lent to other parties without the written permission of the copyright owner or the original software is clearly identified as shareware or in the public domain.