

West Las Vegas Schools

Internet-Communications Policy

Internet and Electronic Mail Permission Form

Supporting the District's EPSS
Educational Plan for Student Success

West Las Vegas Schools is pleased to announce access to the district computer network for electronic mail and the Internet. **To gain equitable access to E-Mail and the Internet, all individuals under the age of 18 must first obtain parental permission and return the bottom portion of this form to their respective teacher or school librarian.** The district will accept forms signed by individuals age 18 or over (they may sign their own forms).

Access to E-Mail and the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of educational libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with other Internet users throughout New Mexico and the United States as well as around the world. Parents, please be aware that some material, downloads, and services offered which are accessible via the Internet may contain items that are illegal, defamatory, sexually oriented, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. School instructional staff will insure that access to the above is prohibited. While the district's intent is to make Internet access available on an unbiased basis and supplement and further the educational process and the district's goals and objectives, individuals may find ways to access other materials as well. West Las Vegas Schools believes that the benefits to students from access to the Internet in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration and for access to educationally oriented materials and services exceeds any disadvantages. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are to be responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources. To that extent, the West Las Vegas School District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to allow their children to apply for Internet access.

District Internet and E-Mail Rules

Students allowed access are responsible for good behavior on school computers, computer labs, and networks just as they are responsible in a classroom or school hallway. Communications on the network-Internet are public in nature, thus appropriate etiquette is compulsory. General school rules for proper behavior and communications will apply.

The network is provided for all students on an equitable basis to conduct educational and school-based research and communicate with others. Access to network services will only be provided to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Parental permission is required unless the student is age 18 or over; **no student will be allowed access without a signed permission form.** Access to this supplemental service should be viewed as a privilege, not a right.

Individual users are responsible for their behavior and communications over the networks. Users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreements they or their parents have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, the school district is not responsible for further restricting, monitoring, or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

Network administrators may review Network storage areas, files, and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users (students and staff) are utilizing the system in a professional and responsible manner. Users should not expect the files stored on district servers to always be private.

Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. During school, librarians and the instructional staff will guide/direct students toward appropriate materials. The school district further believes that outside of school, parents and guardians should bear the same responsibility for such guidance as they currently exercise with information sources such as television, telephones, movies, radio, and other potentially offensive media.

In accordance with this policy (copies of the procedures on student rights and responsibilities are available in all school offices and libraries), the following actions and activities are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using obscene languages
- Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
- Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another's password
- Trespassing in another individual's folders, work, or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes
- Accessing and/or downloading pornography or sexually explicit photos or materials
- Using chat lines

Violations of any of the aforementioned will result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

WEST LAS VEGAS SCHOOL DISTRICT #68

User Agreement and Parent Permission Form

As a user of the West Las Vegas Schools computers, computer labs, and/or computer networks I hereby agree to comply with the above stated rules-communicating over the network in a reliable fashion while honoring all relevant laws and restrictions.

Student's Name

School/Grade Level

Birthdate

Student's Signature

Date

As the parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I grant permission for my son or daughter to access networked computer services such as electronic mail and the Internet. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for violations. I understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable, but I accept responsibility for guidance of Internet use-setting and conveying standards for my daughter or son to follow when selecting, sharing, or exploring information and media.

Home Address

City

Zip

Home Telephone

Parent Signature

Date