



Brantford Collegiate Institute & Vocational School

Acceptable Use Of Computers Policy

Introduction:

The Grand Erie Board of Education provides access to computers and software to the student for the purpose of education. Computers provide an increasingly diverse and import part of the secondary school curriculum. Along with many educational opportunities, computer also may be used in ways that not only detract from, but may significantly harm the education and safety of you people. The policies described hereafter are designed to enhance the education and safety of student learning.

Privilege

The use of the computers and access to the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges.

Some inappropriate uses are:

- using personal email for other than educational reasons.
- using email, chat programs during class without teacher permission.
- using the internet during class without permission.
- bypassing the GEDSB proxy server in order to view banned sites.
- downloading software, music or any material that is copyright and has not been paid for.
- installing software of ANY type on any school computer.
- making ANY changes to installed software/settings without permission.
- connecting/disconnecting ANY devices without permission, this includes headphones/mp3 players/phones.
- downloading/viewing any material/sites involving pornography, hate, drugs or other illegal activities.

Personal Safety

Communication across the Internet on the whole is a very positive experience. The amount of useful information and access to people around the world is immeasurable. However, access to such a wide area can present a potential threat to your safety.

- Do not share your password with anyone. Do not let anyone use your account.
- Change your password if you suspect it is known, make sure you choose a password that is secure but easy to remember.
- When online do not give out any personal information such as your address, telephone number or photograph and refuse to arrange to meet with a stranger.
- Access the Internet only with the knowledge and consent of the teacher.
- Sometimes direct supervision cannot be guaranteed and no security system can block out all inappropriate information. All students are required to police themselves and report any misuse.

Ethical Considerations

Unauthorized access, copying, modification and use of unapproved software are unacceptable and will result in the loss of privileges. There are limitations to the use of software according to their licenses. Everyone is expected to abide by the terms of the license.

Vandalism

The Grand Erie District School provides computers for student use and expects students to treat the computers in a proper manner. Computers are not replaced when vandalized. They will be repaired when budgets and time allow. Students caught vandalizing computers will lose their privileges and may be required to pay for repairs.

Other Devices

It is board policy that no unauthorized devices should be connected to the school network. Students are NOT authorized to disconnect lan cables so that they can connect personal laptops/network devices. If a personal laptop must be connected to a network for a presentation, permission must be obtained.

Please Note:

Network etiquette includes being polite and respectful and using appropriate language. Access to the Internet and e-mail is not private. Operators of the system can track sites visited and e-mails sent/received.