

LIMESTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

NETWORK AND INTERNET

ACCEPTABLE COMPUTER USE AGREEMENT

Please read the following document carefully before signing the contract. The contract must be signed and returned to the school before you will be given access to school network resources.

For the purposes of this document, a local area network (LAN) refers to connected computers within the school, a wide area network (WAN) refers to the connection between the Limestone District School Board Information Technology Services and the school, which includes access to the Internet.

Use of electronic networks and the Internet shall be limited to uses related to administration, education and research. All parties should understand the Board does not have control over the Internet or its contents, although it attempts to provide prudent and available barriers. There are sites which may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, racist, sexist, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. The Board believes that the benefits of the Internet far exceed any disadvantages of access. Ultimately, parents and guardians of students, and students over 18 are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow.

The student and his/her parents/guardians must understand that student access to the Limestone District School Board Network is being developed to support the educational responsibilities and mission of the Board. The specific conditions and services being offered by the Board will change from time to time. However, the Board assumes no responsibilities for:

- the content of any advice or information received by a student from a source outside of the Board, or any costs or charges incurred as a result of seeking or accepting such advice;
- any costs, liability or damages caused by the way the student chooses to use his/her Board Network access;
- any consequences of service interruptions or changes, even if these disruptions arise from circumstances under the control of the Board; and,
- the privacy of electronic mail.

It is for these reasons that students and parents/guardians are asked to sign this Acceptable Computer Use Agreement. The signatures at the end of this document are binding and indicate that the parties which have signed this agreement, have read the terms and conditions carefully and understand their significance.

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I ACCEPTABLE USE:

The Limestone District School Board provides network resources to support research and education by its students and staff. Therefore, use of the network must be consistent with the educational objectives of the Board and limited to uses related to administration, education and research. Use of remote computing sites and network service providers must comply with rules appropriate for those sites and networks.

II PROHIBITED USE:

Prohibited use includes, but is not limited to:

- uses which violate any federal or provincial legislation, including but not limited to copyright laws;
- uses of a defamatory, malicious, inappropriate, abusive, obscene, profane or sexually explicit nature;
- uses which constitute harassment on the basis of race, sex or ability;
- uses which threaten or intimidate others;
- uses which violate or infringe upon the rights of any other person;
- uses which unduly interfere with the work of other users or computer systems, or seriously disrupt the network, or result in the loss of another user's work or system;
- uses related to political lobbying or commercial activities such as the unsolicited distribution of advertising material and sale of products and services;
- uses which violate the published acceptable use guidelines of network service providers or remote computing sites;
- uses which encourage the use of controlled substances or the use of the system for the purpose of inciting a crime;
- sending e-mail or other electronic communications which hides the identify of the sender or represents the sender as someone else;

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- vandalism, including but not limited to, the creation or passing of computer viruses, which is a federal offense and could be subject to prosecution;
- any alteration of the software setup on any computer system which changes access to the network;
- any change to the hardware setup on any equipment unless with the permission of the system Administrator;
- any unauthorized downloading of software.

All computer use must be in accordance with the Criminal Code of Canada, the Ontario Education Act, and the policies and procedures of the Limestone District School Board.

I am applying for access to the Local and Wide-Area Networks for the Limestone District School Board which includes access to the Internet. I have read and understand the following terms and conditions of network access:

1. I have read and will abide by the Limestone District School Board Acceptable Computer Use Agreement.
2. My network access will be for educational purposes only, including research, intellectual exchanges, educational projects and support to direct instruction. I understand that commercial (for profit) use of the network is inappropriate, as is recreational use (such as game playing, chats and newsgroups,) except as directed by a teacher.
3. I recognize that I am responsible for the content of any messages sent from my account whether as private mail or as a public posting. I will therefore keep my password confidential and not allow another person to use my account under any circumstances. I recognize that there is no guarantee of privacy on computer networks and that electronic mail (e-mail) is not private.
4. I understand that attempting to discover and make use of other people's passwords and accounts, and their data is unacceptable behavior, as is any attempt to circumvent security measures put in place by the school's and the Board's network administrator.
5. At any time during my use of the Internet, I am willing to explain to a supervisor or teacher my activities and for what purpose I am accessing certain files. I recognize that the supervisor or teacher reserves the right to access and monitor all my messages and file on the school or Board e-mail Internet systems.
6. I agree that any unacceptable use on my part will be dealt with according to the school's Code of Behavior and/or relevant Board Procedures. The school principal or his/her designate shall be the arbiter in identifying inappropriate use and deciding on its consequences. I agree to abide by such decision. If necessary, the Board also reserves the right to advise appropriate legal officials of any violations of this agreement.

If you have any questions on this agreement, please contact the school principal or the network administrator **BEFORE** signing.

Student Signature _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature
(for students under 18) _____

Date: _____