

# Rio Grande City CISD Acceptable Use Policy

Internet access is now available to parents, students, and teachers at most of our Rio Grande City CISD campuses. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in our district by facilitating resource sharing, *innovation*, and *communication* for parents, students and teachers.

The availability of the internet gives students and teachers access to electronic mail, communication with people all over the world, information and news from around the world, access to many university library catalogs and databases, and many other opportunities not available without the use of the internet. With this access comes the availability of materials that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting.

Rio Grande City CISD has taken all available precautions to restrict access to these materials and other information that may be controversial to its users. However, it is impossible to examine all web sites that may be deemed unsuitable to our educational standards. Because internet is used as part of the school's instructional program, conduct will be subject to the school's code of conduct as formalized by individual standards or responsibility, school, and district policies. At the same time, Rio Grande City CISD places a high value on a student's right to freedom of expression.

The terms and conditions for use are provided here so that all will be aware of the responsibilities which accompany the privilege of use. In general, this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. Rio Grande City CISD also disapproves of plagiarism and copyright violations. According to the Copyright Act of 1976, "Fair Use" means that you may freely use any information that you legally find on the information networks as long as you do so only for scholarly purposes. You may not plagiarize or sell what you find. Plagiarism is defined as "Taking ideas or writings from another person and offering them as your own." Credit should always be given to the person who created the article or the idea.

If a Rio Grande City CISD user violates any of these provisions, his or her account with internet will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. The following terms and conditions should be read carefully by parents, students and staff.

## Terms and Conditions

The following will not be permitted and not limited to:

- Sending or displaying offensive or pornographic messages or pictures
- Harassing, insulting, or attacking other users on the internet or our network
- Engaging in promoting violence or gang activity
- Receiving or transmitting information pertaining to dangerous instrumentalities such as bombs, firearms, or explosive devices.
- Damaging computer, computer systems or computer networks
- Trespassing into other users folders, work, files, or computers

- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network or internet for commercial purposes
- Transmitting personal information without written permission
- Intentionally disrupting information network traffic or crashes the network and/or connected systems
- Degrades or disrupts equipment or system performance
- Violation of copyright laws
- Plagiarism

**Consequences and Violations**

Consequences and violations include but are not limited to:

- Suspension and/or revocation of network access
- Suspension and/or revocation of computer access
- In-School suspension
- Conference with parent or guardian
- School expulsion
- Legal action and prosecution by legal authorities

As a user of the Rio Grande City CISD, I hereby agree to comply with the stated acceptable use policy. I have read and understand the terms and conditions stated in the policy and I agree to the consequences if I violate them.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus: \_\_\_\_\_

As the parent or legal guardian of the minor student above, I grant permission for my child to access the Internet services provided by the Rio Grande City CISD. I understand that individuals and families may be held liable for any violations that may occur through the use of the internet. I also understand that some materials on the Internet may be objectionable but that the Rio Grande City CISD is doing everything possible that will help in screening some of these materials. I will not hold Rio Grande City CISD liable if my child should intentionally view a questionable site without consent by the Rio Grande City CISD staff. I further understand that I will be notified if my child is accessing this questionable material by a campus administrator.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_