

TEAGUE I.S.D.
STUDENT COMPUTER USE - REGULATIONS & GUIDELINES
AUGUST 11, 2008

COMPUTER RESOURCES

To prepare students for an increasingly computerized society, the district has made an investment in computer technology for instructional purposes. Use of these resources is restricted to students working under a teacher's supervision or approval and for approved purposes only. Students and parents will be required to sign a user agreement (in registration packet) regarding use of these resources; violations of this agreement may result in disciplinary action that may include technology privileges being revoked.

Students and their parents should be aware that any data stored on any computer, server or network of the district belongs to the district and is monitored by faculty, administration, and technology staff. There is no right of privacy to anyone using the district's equipment or network. The term "data" includes, but is not limited to: email, directories, folders, documents, files, and software.

Acceptable Use of Computers/Network

We are pleased to offer access to computers, peripherals, and the Internet to the students of Teague ISD and believe that the Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service to students is to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

Teague ISD recognizes that the Internet can be used to facilitate many educational activities.

The Internet can be a valuable learning tool in the area of electronic-mail, research, electronic field trips, and library references. On-line resources available on the Internet allow classroom projects, scientific data collection and international cultural exchanges. With this access comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Please note that the Internet is an association of diverse communication and information networks. It is possible that your child may run across areas of adult content and some material you might find objectionable. While the district will take reasonable steps to preclude access to such material and does not condone such access, it is not possible for us to absolutely prevent such access. It is believed that the valuable information and interaction available on these networks far outweigh the possibility that users may locate material that is not consistent with the educational goals of Teague Independent School District.

Proper conduct is expected of all end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. In general this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources.

If a Teague ISD user violates any of these provisions, his or her account could be terminated and future access could possibly be denied. The signature(s) on the acceptable use form is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

The following regulations and guidelines for acceptable use of computers, networks, and Internet, shall apply to all Teague ISD students. All technology equipment shall be used under the supervision or approval of the appropriate Teague ISD faculty or staff.

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Online Conduct

1. The computers/peripherals/Internet may not be used for illegal purposes, in support of illegal activities, or for any other activity prohibited by Teague ISD policy or guidelines.
2. Students may not distribute personal information about themselves or others by means of any electronic communication system.
3. Users may not copy or download copyrighted programs or data except with the written permission of the copyright holder or designee. Such permission must be specified in the document or must be obtained directly from the copyright holder or designee in accordance with applicable copyright laws, Teague ISD policy, and administrative regulations.
4. Users may not upload/install programs to the network. Users may not download/install any software to the computer system, especially those that may damage the computers or the network. Users may not download/**install** programs for their own personal use.
5. Users may not send or post messages or pictures that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal.
6. Users may not purposefully access materials that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal. A student who gains access to such material is expected to discontinue the access as quickly as possible and to report the incident to the supervising teacher.
7. Users may not gain unauthorized access to resources or information, e.g., personal files or student records on or from any computer or server.
8. Without written permission from an appropriate supervisor, users shall not take home ANY technology equipment (hardware or software) for any reason at any time.
9. Transmission of any material in violation of any US or state regulation is prohibited. Use for commercial activities is not acceptable. Use for product advertisement or political lobbying is also prohibited.
10. Users may not use the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked.
11. Students are not allowed to print to network resources unless approved by Lab Coordinator/Teacher.
12. Students are not allowed to attempt to circumvent any firewalls, content filters, or security features of any kind.
13. Students are prohibited from participating in any chat room or newsgroup accessed on the Internet, with the exception of supervised teacher planned activities. This includes the use of Internet/Intranet mail.

Access to the Teague ISD computers/peripherals/Internet is a privilege, not a right. All users shall be required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of all administrative regulations and guidelines governing use of the system and shall agree in writing to allow monitoring of their use and to comply with such regulations and guidelines. Any system user identified as a security risk or as having violated Teague ISD and/or campus computer use guidelines could be denied access to the Teague ISD equipment/network.

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Noncompliance may result in suspension of access or termination of privileges and other disciplinary action consistent with Teague ISD policies. Violations of law may result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by the Teague ISD.

The system administrators will deem what is inappropriate use and their decision is final. Also, the system administrators may close an account at any time as required. The administration, faculty, and staff of Teague Independent School District can require the system administrator to deny, revoke, or suspend specific user privileges.

Etiquette on the Internet

All users of the Teague Independent School District's computers and networks are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette (netiquette). Informal rules of behavior have evolved for the use of communication on the Internet and other on-line services. Breaches can result in "flaming"--harsh criticism by others on the Net--or restricted access to some resources on the Internet. These rules of behavior include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others. Messages typed in capital letters are the computer equivalent of shouting and are considered rude.
2. Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgarities, ethnic or racial slurs, or any other inflammatory language.
3. Do not reveal your personal address or phone numbers or that of other students or colleagues.
4. Do not pretend to be someone else when sending/receiving message.

The use of the Teague ISD system/network is for instructional purposes only.

Intellectual Property Rights

Students shall retain rights to work they create using Teague ISD computers/peripherals/network. Teague ISD shall retain the right to access or use any data remaining on Teague ISD's network.

Vandalism is Prohibited

Any malicious attempt to harm or destroy Teague ISD equipment or data or data of another user of the district's network, or any of the agencies or other networks that are connected to the Internet is prohibited. Deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt system performance are violations of Teague ISD policy and administrative regulations and may constitute criminal activity under applicable state and federal laws. Such prohibited activity includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creating of computer viruses. Vandalism as defined above will result in the cancellation of system use privileges and will require restitution for costs associated with system restoration, as well as other appropriate consequences.

Consent Requirements

No personally identifiable information about a Teague ISD student will be posted on a web page under the district's control unless the district has received written consent from the student's parent.

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Disclaimer of Liability

Teague ISD shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of computers/peripherals/network or violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, users' mistakes or negligence, or costs incurred by users. Teague ISD shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy, age appropriateness, or usability of any information found on the Internet.

Teague ISD will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the district's computers/peripherals/network/Internet.

