Wolf Creek Public Schools

WolfNet - Acceptable Use Policy for Students

Preamble

Wolf Creek Public Schools (WCPS) has installed a Wide Area Network (WolfNet) connecting all of its facilities together. Included in the services available on WolfNet is access to the Internet for students and staff.

The Board of Education strongly believes in the educational value of such electronic services and their potential in creating success for all learners by enabling global communication, sharing of resources and information, collaboration, and innovation. By helping education extend beyond WCPS, this service will enhance the ability of teachers and students to meet the challenges of the future.

The Internet is not unlike any other large community in that all aspects, good and bad, of a large community are present on "the net". The majority of the members of the Internet community are responsible and law abiding, but elements of malicious or criminal intent do exist. As with other communities, material is available on the Internet that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting, or that may be objectionable to some.

Wolf Creek Public Schools (WCPS) has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials from the Internet. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials. Accidental exposure to controversial materials may occur, or a determined user may discover controversial information. We firmly believe that the value of information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of Wolf Creek Public Schools (WCPS)

Conditions of Use

Acceptable Use

Internet access is a privilege – not a right! Access is provided to conduct research and to communicate with others. WolfNet is a finite resource. Use of WolfNet and the Internet must be in support of, and consistent with, the educational objectives of Wolf Creek Public Schools and use must conform to WCPS Policy and Administrative Manuals.

Protocols on how to access or use specific services may be developed from time to time (example: Laptop use and virus infection prevention). Users of WolfNet are required to follow any specific protocols developed for any service accessed.

Note that electronic mail (e-mail) and posting on social media (Wolfden) is not private. People who operate the system do have access to all mail and social media postings. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities and will result in the loss of user privileges.

Network Etiquette

All users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Be polite. Do not get abusive in your messages to others.
- Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- Use WolfNet and the Internet in such a way that you will not disrupt the use of the network by other users.
- All communications and information accessible via the Internet should be

assumed to be the private property of those who put it on the network. Therefore it is inappropriate to redistribute a message sent to you without the consent of the author.

- If you see a security problem on the network report it to a teacher, school administrator or technology staff member.

Inappropriate Use	Inappropriate use may result in cancellation of network privileges. Depending upon the seriousness, inappropriate use may also result in additional disciplinary actions (which may include suspension or expulsion from school), legal actions, or cost recovery. The following actions are specifically prohibited:

- Transmission of, or obtaining access to, any material in violation of any Canadian law, whether Federal, Provincial, Municipal or other statute.
- Transmission of, or obtaining access to, any material in violation of the laws of any other state or in violation of the rules or laws of any International agency or organization.
- Engaging in illegal, unethical, or malicious acts.
- Accessing resources without authorization, either inside or outside of the WCSD network.
- Sending files or messages designed to disrupt other computer systems or networks.
- Composing, sending or storing messages which include profanity, sexual, racial, religious, or ethnic slurs and other abuse, or that contain threatening or otherwise offensive language or pictures.
- Using or transmitting unauthorized copyright protected material.
- Unauthorized accessing of another person's folders, work or files.
- Intentionally wasting printer or server resources.
- Using the district/school network for profit purposes. Personal use is permitted on personal time provided it does not interfere with the educational operations of WCPS.
- Downloading unauthorized files.
- Revealing personal information about others over the Internet without their knowledge and consent.
- Any form of commercial use of WolfNet (unless specifically approved by the Superintendent or designate).
- Use of WolfNet for for-profit product or service advertising.
- Use of WolfNet for political lobbying.
- Deliberately attempting to circumvent or otherwise defeat WolfNet security measures.
- Demonstrating security problems to other users.

All the uses spoken of above, while not an exclusive list, are examples of unacceptable use that may result in sanctions. Additional rules may be put in place from time to time by WCPS. Unacceptable use respecting the use of WolfNet may result in cancellation of the privilege of using of WolfNet for gaining access to the Internet. WCPS may deny, revoke, suspend or close any user account at any time based upon a determination of unacceptable use by an account holder or user. The determination as to whether there has been unacceptable use will be a decision solely within the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools or designate.

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Vandalism and Harassment	Vandalism and harassment will result in suspension of user privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm, modify, or destroy the data of another user, the Internet, or other networks that are connected to the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creating of computer viruses. This also includes malicious attempts to damage any WCPS equipment. Harassment is defined as the persistent annoyance of another user, or the interference of another user's work. Harassment includes, but is not limited to, the sending of unwanted mail or SPAM.
Monitoring	WolfNet and the services provided on WolfNet are wholly owned by WCPS. WCPS reserves the right to review any material on user accounts and to monitor file server space in order to make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are acceptable.
No Warranties	WCPS makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the service it is providing. WCPS will not be responsible for any damages a user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, misdirected deliveries, or service interruptions caused by WCPS's actions or inactions (whether or not these actions or inactions are intentional, unintentional, or negligent) or by the user's own errors or omissions. WCPS takes specific measures to protect the integrity and security of WolfNet. Notwithstanding these measures, WolfNet users accept the risk that spyware or other malicious software may be installed on WCPS computers without the knowledge or consent of WCPS. Such spyware or other forms of malicious software could potentially result in the disclosure of personal information to unknown third parties. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. WCPS specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services. All users need to consider the source of any information they obtain and consider how valid that information may be.
Security	Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. A user must never allow others to use his/her password. Users should also protect their passwords to ensure system security and their own privileges and ability to continue use of the system. If you feel you can identify a security problem on WolfNet, you must notify a teacher who will in turn notify Technology Services. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Attempts to log on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges and other sanctions.
Specific Conditions for Student Use	Unless an independent use agreement has been entered into, student users must always have permission from a teacher before using the Internet in any WCPS school. All use by students must be in accordance with established school policies regarding student conduct or other rules or procedures as may be established by each school.
Unacceptable	Users may encounter material, the access to which, or use of which, is

Material   controversial or unacceptable. It is the user's responsibility not to initiate access to such material and to cease access to such material immediately upon discovery that access has been inadvertently gained to such material. Ability to access such material must be reported to a teacher, who will in turn report such ability to access material to Technology Services. WCPS shall not be liable for any decision by any service provider, any WCPS school, or by WCPS itself, to restrict access to or to regulate access to material on the Internet. It is also understood by WolfNet users that WCPS does not control material on the Internet and that WCPS is therefore unable to control the content of data that a user may discover or encounter through use of the Internet.

Umbrella Policy   This policy is a division level policy that applies to use of the entire division network resource known as WolfNet. Individual schools may develop additional rules or policy and it is the responsibility of all WolfNet users to familiarize themselves with the policies in effect at their school.