

**NORTH PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**School Board Policy**

**6166(a)**

**INSTRUCTION**

Reference: Administrative Regulations #6166 & #4121

**Elementary and Secondary Instructional Services**

**Internet Responsible and Acceptable Use Policy**

**Preamble**

This policy will serve as a statement on the responsible and acceptable use of the North Penn School District Computer Network, including the district's connection to the Internet and all associated software and hardware.

**Educational Purposes**

The purpose of the North Penn School District Acceptable Use Policy is to define how technology, including use of district computers and the Internet, will be used to enhance school curriculum and serve as a resource for improving, extending, and enriching teaching and learning in the North Penn School District.

Users of this technology are responsible for ensuring that their activities adhere to the educational standards of the district within the North Penn School District educational mission. Within reasons and in a manner consistent with the North Penn School District's educational mission, freedom of speech and unimpeded access to information will be honored.

This policy applies to all users including staff, students, associated vendors, consultants, and business partners.

**Privilege**

The use of the North Penn School District network is a privilege and not a right. All users will be assigned an account. This account is defined as access to the North Penn School District Network. There are and will be varying degrees of access to the North Penn School District network that are and will be allowed to different learners. Age, grade, and demonstration of acceptance of responsibility will determine some of these levels.

**Responsibilities**

With the rights and privileges of an Internet account or the use of the district network comes certain responsibilities and specific prohibitions. Users need to familiarize themselves with these responsibilities and prohibitions which are detailed in the Administrative Regulation #6166. All users assume full liability - legal, financial or otherwise - for their actions when using the North Penn School District network. Failure to follow them may result in disciplinary action. The North Penn School District will report and cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies in the event that users violate any laws.

**Email Account** The North Penn School District will provide an email account for each user. The purpose of the account is for school related communication.

**Privacy**

The North Penn School District Network is maintained and managed by the system administrator in such a way as to insure its availability and reliability in performing its educational mission. Notwithstanding anything contained in this policy to the contrary, users have no reasonable expectation of privacy concerning any materials transferred over or stored within the district network.

**Safety**

Any account holders who receive threatening or unwelcome communications should bring them to the attention of a system administrator or teacher. Users must, however, be aware that there are many services available on the Internet that could potentially be offensive to certain groups of users. Individual users must take responsibility for their own actions in navigating the network.

**Intellectual Freedom**

So long as expressed opinions are not otherwise inconsistent with this policy, the network administrators will place no official sanctions upon the expression of personal opinion on the network. However, the North Penn School District does not officially endorse any opinions stated on the network. Any statement of personal belief is implicitly understood to be representative of the author's individual point of view, and not that of the North Penn School District or its staff.

**Opting Out of Network Use**

Parents have the option of notifying the school district via their child's building principal, in writing, of their desire to not permit their child to have access to the computer network. Parents should understand that the computer network and the internet are fully integrated into the curriculum and students opting out of network use may miss important content in electing to do so.

Policy:

Adopted: February 19, 1998

Amended: November 5, 2007

Amended: September 24, 2009

Amended: April 21, 2011

Amended: August 15, 2013