
**STUDENT COMPUTER/INTERNET POLICY
QUICK REFERENCE**

Students are responsible for their behavior while using school computing resources just as they are responsible for their behavior in classrooms, hallways, and all other times during which they are under the supervision of the Dougherty County School System. Therefore, all general school rules regarding student conduct, behavior, and communications apply to the use of school computing resources, including, but not limited to, those rules contained in **The Dougherty County Board of Education Policy Manual, Section J**. Because all DCSS computer accounts are identified by their DCSS addresses, every transmission involving a DCSS created computer account reflects upon the entire school system. Therefore, access to DCSS computing resources will be provided only to those users who agree and continue to act in a considerate and responsible manner, including, but not limited to, the following guidelines. The following advisory is intended as a quick and useful guide to most questions regarding appropriate use of the DCSS computing resources; it is not intended to provide a conclusive answer to every possible question that may arise during the course of a student's computer use. If a student is uncertain about the appropriateness of any specific use of the DCSS computing resources, the student should consult the system operator and the **Dougherty County School System Computer/Internet User Policy** on file in the computer laboratory/library media center.

1. Students shall be polite and considerate of other users.
2. Students shall use appropriate language at all times.
3. Students are encouraged to use their best grammar and spelling at all times, so that their ideas may be evaluated on their content rather than on the manner of their presentations but be forgiving of the errors of others.
4. Students shall use printing resources wisely.
5. Students shall use computers in a timely manner, so that all students may have an opportunity to utilize computing resources.
6. Students are encouraged to tell the system operator whenever they find a particularly interesting site on the Internet.

ACCEPTABLE USE

Computers:

1. Use related to classwork, including research and access to instructional materials,
2. Computer applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, etc.
3. Computer programming and other functions related to a computer skills course.

Internet:

1. Use related to research and education, particularly access to unique resources not available in the local setting.
2. Electronic mail.
3. Use of individual accounts as dictated by the service provider and the Dougherty County School System.

UNACCEPTABLE USE

Computers:

1. Neither students nor employees shall use DCSS computers for any commercial business or profit or for solicitations or purchases of any kind.
2. Neither students nor employees shall use DCSS computers to play games.
3. Neither students nor employees shall use any personal software in DCSS computers without prior approval nor shall any user deliberately access, remove, or copy any program or file on a network belonging to someone else without specific authorization.
4. Neither students nor employees shall add programs to the DCSS computer system, delete programs, copy programs, or tamper with existing programs in any way.
5. Neither students nor employees shall use any DCSS computer or computer network in such a way that causes it to stop performing computer operations or that disrupts the use of the network by others.

Internet:

1. Neither students nor employees shall use an Internet connection provided by DCSS for any commercial business or profit or for solicitations or purchases of any kind.
2. Neither students nor employees shall engage in any conduct, including chat activities, which harass, libel, or slander another individual.
3. No students shall access, display, or send any materials which are vulgar, threatening, or indecent.
4. Neither students nor employees may disguise or hide their identity, including changing their name on the system. Only the system operator may change a user name and account.
5. Neither students nor employees shall create "home pages" or directories without approval by the system operator.
6. Neither students nor employees shall use DCSS computing resources to access, display, or send materials which are obscene or illegal.
7. Neither students nor employees shall use DCSS computing resources to advertise any product or to engage in political lobbying or advertising.
8. Under absolutely no circumstances should students arrange to meet an individual they have contacted while utilizing the DCSS computing resources, and students should notify their parent or guardian and the system operator immediately upon an attempt by any user to arrange to meet them or upon a contact from any user for an illicit or suspicious purpose on the DCSS computing system.

In the event of any question not directly answered by this quick reference, students shall consult the **Dougherty County School System Computer/Internet User Policy** on file in the computer laboratory/library media center, as well as the system operator or, if that person is not available, the first available teacher. If this does not lead to a satisfactory resolution of the student inquiry, the student should save their present work and arrange to meet with a system operator regarding the student inquiry.

**COMPUTER/INTERNET USER POLICY
STUDENT POLICY**

I have read the Dougherty County School System Computer/Internet User Policy and agree to adhere to its provisions. I understand that my use of computers and the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in cancellation of those privileges, school disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.

Furthermore, I understand that my password must be kept secure and will not be shared with anyone except the system operator. Violation of the password provisions will result in revocation of any access to the DCSS computing system.

(Please print)

Student Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

School Name _____

Grade _____ School Year _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

If you are under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian must also read and sign this agreement. This agreement must be renewed each academic year and kept on file in the school.

Exhibit

Descriptor Code: IFBG~E(2)

Internet Acceptable Use

**PARENT SECTION
COMPUTER/INTERNET USER POLICY**

As the parent or guardian of this student I have read the Dougherty County School System Computer/Internet User Policy. I understand that access to computers and the Internet is designed for educational purposes and that student access will be monitored. However, I also recognize that it is impossible for the Dougherty County School System to restrict all controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. I hereby give permission for my child to use the Internet and computing services and certify that the information contained in this form is correct.

Furthermore, I accept liability for any damage or expense caused by my child's misuse of the computing resources of the Dougherty County School System and free the Dougherty County School System from any liability upon my child's misuse of the equipment, acquisition of inappropriate materials, or unacceptable use of the DCSS computing resources.

Optional: I give permission for my child to use the Internet and other computing services, but I prefer that my child not be issued an email account. _____

(Please print)

Parent/Guardian _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home Address _____

Home Phone Number _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

DOUGHERTY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION