

**Lutheran High School Association
Of Greater Milwaukee
Computer Network
Acceptable Use Policy
Martin Luther High School
Computer Network and Internet Acceptable Use Policy**

Philosophy and Goals

- The internet is a network of networks used by educators, businesses, the government, the military, and other organizations. The internet can be used to educate and to inform. As a learning resource, the internet is similar to books, magazines, video, CD-ROM, and other information sources.
- Access to the internet at Lake Country Lutheran High School, Martin Luther High School, and Milwaukee Lutheran High School (the schools and offices of The Lutheran High School Association of Greater Milwaukee-LHSAGM) is a privilege - not a right. Access entails responsibility.
- Because the internet is a fluid environment, the information which will be available to students is constantly changing; therefore, it is impossible to predict with certainty what information students might locate. We do use a filtering device to automatically screen the sites which are called up. While our intent is to make internet access available to further educational goals and objectives as well as to apply technology in accordance with Christian principles, students may find ways to access other materials. We believe that the benefits to students from access to the internet, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. The schools will preserve academic freedom with certain standards but, ultimately, parents and guardians of minor students are responsible for establishing and communicating the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.
- The networking environment requires that the LHSAGM define guidelines for student exploration and use of electronic information resources. (See Internet Use Rules and Regulations Below) Such guidelines address issues of privacy, ethical use of information with respect to intellectual property, using the networks for illegal activities, or knowingly spreading embedded messages or other computer programs that have the potential of damaging or destroying programs or data.
- Students may use the internet to participate in distance learning activities, to ask questions of and consult with experts, to communicate with other students and individuals, and to locate material to meet their educational and personal information needs. School and library media specialists and teachers have a professional responsibility to work together to help students develop the intellectual skills needed to discriminate among information sources, to identify information appropriate to their age and developmental levels, and to evaluate and use information to meet their educational goals.
- LHSAGM reserves the right to delete any files put onto the computer due to internet use.
- LHSAGM reserves the right to prioritize the use and access to the system.
- LHSAGM requires that all students have a signed Acceptable Use Policy on file.

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Internet Use Rules and Regulations of the LHSAGM**

The following are examples of actions that are not allowed:

- Sending or displaying offensive or pornographic messages or pictures.
- Using obscene or defamatory language.
- Harassing, insulting, defaming, or attacking others verbally.
- Damaging computers, or computer systems.
- Destroying data of another user.
- Violating copyright laws.
- Using another person's password.
- Intentionally wasting limited resources.
- Using the internet for commercial purposes.
- Interactive game playing.
- Downloading non-school related files or programs.
- Other uses deemed unacceptable by the general standards of our faith and our school.

In addition to the inappropriate behaviors listed above, these ground rules for use of the world wide web are also included:

- Do not give out personal information, phone numbers, social security numbers, credit card information, or addresses.
- Do not enter news groups or chat rooms without approval of an administrator or teacher.
- Do not fill out questionnaires without the permission of an administrator or teacher.
- Do not order a product over the internet.
- If you arrive at a site that is offensive to Christians, use the "back" button to leave the site and report it immediately to an administrator or teacher.

Violation Consequences

Violations of this acceptable use policy will be dealt with through the discipline cycle and may result in:

- Withholding privileges.
- In-school suspension.
- Out-of-school suspension.
- Expulsion.
- Students and their families are responsible for any financial expenses resulting from improper technology use. This includes payments to staff members for their time to correct problems due to abuse.

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Parental Acknowledgment Form

As a student user of the computer network at a school of the LHSAGM, I have read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that internet access and e-mail are privileges which may be revoked, temporarily or permanently, at any time if I do not follow these rules. As a user of my personal computer on campus or computers owned by the LHSAGM , I hereby agree to comply with the above stated rules and guidelines.

Date

Student Signature

As a parent or legal guardian of the student signing above, I have read and understand the Acceptable Use Policy. By signing this parental acknowledgment form, I accept this policy and understand that it is impossible for staff of the LHSAGM or its schools to monitor or restrict access to all controversial materials. (These materials would not likely be found accidentally while doing normal research or communication; a user would have to intentionally look for them.) Should I later become concerned about what my child is reading or viewing on the internet, I understand that I can contact the principal of the school regarding my concerns.

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature

Name of Student (Please Print)

Year of Graduation

Address

Home Phone Number