

# **Eureka County School District**

## **Student Access to Networked Information Resources**

We are pleased to offer the students of Eureka County School District access to the district computer network, electronic mail and the Internet. The board recognizes that as telecommunications and other new technologies shift the ways that information may be accessed, communicated and transferred by members of the society, those changes may also alter instruction and student learning. The Board generally supports access by students to rich information resources along with the development by staff of appropriate skills to analyze and evaluate such resources.

Electronic information research skills are now fundamental to preparation of citizens and future employees during an Age of Information. The Board expects that staff will blend thoughtful use of such information throughout the curriculum and that the staff will provide guidance and instruction to students in the appropriate use of such resources.

Access to telecommunications will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with people throughout the world. Students will access such electronic information in class during normal school hours. This information could also include access to the school district computers remotely from home. Families should be warned that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive to some people. Eureka County School District has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials and inform users of the proper use of the Internet. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all information. An industrious user may discover these controversial materials, either on purpose or by accident.

The Board believes that the benefits to students from access in the form of electronic information resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. But ultimately, parents and guardians of students are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks, just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. Communications on the network are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply. The network is provided for students to conduct educational research and communications. Access to network services will be provided by the school district to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner.

The District reserves the right to access stored records in cases where there is reasonable suspicion to suspect misuse of the system. The network supervisor may examine network files and communications in order to ascertain compliance with network guidelines for acceptable use and network security threats.

Network, Internet and electronic mail rules and guidelines are outlined in the Eureka County School District Acceptable Use Policy.

Any questions concerning the acceptable use of the Eureka County School District computer system can be directed to the District's Systems Engineer.