

# Hale Area Schools Internet Use Agreement

*Please read this document carefully before signing.*

Internet access is now available to all students, teachers and support staff (as well as to certain other interested third parties) at Hale Area Schools. We are extremely pleased to be able to bring Internet access to the Hale Area School District because we believe that the Internet offers vast, diverse and unique resources to all the members of the education community. Our primary goal in providing this service to the members of the education community is to promote educational excellence among all the members of the Hale Area School District, and especially within the Hale Elementary and Middle School and the Hale High School systems served by Hale Area Schools, by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, experimentation and communication between and among all the parties involved.

The Internet is an electronic communications system (a "highway" - if you will) connecting millions of computers from all over the world to tens (and, eventually, to hundreds) of millions of individual subscribers. And anyone connected to this Internet system has the ability to:

- 1.) Send and receive electronic ("e-mail") messages to and from individuals who live all over the world.
- 2.) Gather information and news from governmental agencies (like the U.S. Census Bureau or NASA) as well as the opportunity to correspond with the people (like the scientists at NASA) who staff these agencies and provide data for all the various governmental or educational research facilities now connected to the Internet.
- 3.) Download public-domain (free) software and "shareware" of all types and purposes for all kinds of computer systems (UNIX, IBM-compatible, Apple, Amiga, Commodore, etc.).
- 4.) Participate in discussion groups on an incredible number and variety of topics, ranging from Chinese culture to the environment to all kinds of music to politics to national and/or international news to many medical subjects such as allergies, heart disease, cancer, death and dying, etc.
- 5.) Search many University Library Catalogs, the Library of Congress and the ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) Clearinghouse - as well as download many of the texts contained in these libraries.

But, with access to computers and to people from all over the world also comes the possibility that some of our users may view some materials that might not be considered to be of educational value to them in the context of the school setting. Therefore, Hale Area Schools may restrict access to some materials; in addition the district may restrict access to obscene or pornographic materials. However, on a global network such as the Internet, it is obviously impossible to control access to all materials, and curious and industrious users may discover some controversial information on their own. At Hale Area Schools we regret this possibility, but we also firmly believe that the valuable information and the various personally enriching interactions available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that some users may procure some material that may not be consistent with the educational goals of the District.

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of governmental agencies and regional and state-wide networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of all its end users, who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that you are aware of the responsibilities you are about to acquire. In general this requires efficient, ethical and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Hale Area Schools user violates any of these provisions, his or her account is subject to immediate termination and future access could possibly be denied. The signature(s) at the end of this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

### **Internet - Terms and Conditions**

1) *Acceptable Use* - The purpose of Hale Area Schools connection to the Internet at large, is to support research and education by providing access to unique resources as well as the opportunity for collaborative work among the members of its educational community. Therefore, the use of your account must be in support of education and research and be consistent with the educational objectives of the Hale Area School District. The use of any other organization's network and/or computing resources through Hale Area Schools must comply with the rules and/or policies appropriate to that network. Furthermore, transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state laws or regulations is strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, all copyrighted material, any threatening or obscene material as well as material protected by all laws governing trade secrets. Use for commercial activities (including product advertisement) requires prior permission. Any services accessed which require a monetary charge or financial commitment shall be the responsibility of the individual user. Finally, use for partisan political lobbying is prohibited.

2) *Privileges* - The use of Hale Area Schools' connection to the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use of that connection will result in cancellation of those privileges. (Each student who receives an account from the district will be given the name of a specific Hale Area School faculty member with whom he or she may discuss any and all matters pertaining to the proper use of the network.) The system's administrators will deem what is inappropriate use of the district's network and their decision is final. Also, the system's administrators may close any account at any time as deemed appropriate in the sole discretion of those administrators. The administration, faculty and staff of Hale Area Schools may request the system administrator to deny, revoke or suspend specific user accounts.

3) *Network Etiquette* - You are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of computer network etiquette. At the present time these include (but are not limited to) the following:

- a.) Be polite. Do not be personally abusive in your messages to others.
- b.) Use appropriate language. Do not swear or use vulgar, obscene, or inappropriate language. All communications deemed illegal by any or all federal, state or local ordinances are strictly forbidden.
- c.) Do not reveal your own personal address nor the addresses and/or phone numbers of other students or colleagues without their permission.
- d.) Note that your electronic mail (e-mail) is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to all e-mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the proper authorities.
- e.) Do not use the network in such a way that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users.
- f.) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property. Users should not intentionally seek to obtain unauthorized copies of, or to

deliberately modify, any files or other data (including passwords) belonging to any of the other users of this system without their explicit permission.

- g.) As rules in Network Etiquette change and evolve, users must be responsible for understanding and abiding by those generally accepted rules of the Internet.

4) Hale Area Schools makes absolutely no warranties of any kind, neither expressed nor implied, for the services it is providing. Hale Area Schools will not be responsible for any damages you suffer. This includes (but is not limited to) any loss of data which results from delays, nondeliveries, mis-deliveries or service interruptions caused either by its own negligence or your own errors and/or omissions. Any and all use of any of the information obtained via the Internet is at your own risk. Hale Area Schools specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy and/or quality of any information obtained through its Internet services. The user (or parent/guardian, if applicable) agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Hale Area Schools, the district, board of trustees, individual trustees, agents, and employees of Hale Area Schools from and against any claim, lawsuit, cause of action, damage judgment, or administrative complaint arising out of the use of Hale Area Schools' hardware, software, and network facilities under this agreement.

5) *Security* - Security on any networked computer system has an extremely high priority, especially when the system involves a variety of users. If you feel that you can identify a security problem that is in any way associated with Hale Area Schools' connection to the Internet, you should notify either a system administrator or the District Technology Coordinator immediately. In addition, do not demonstrate the problem to any other users. Moreover, you shall not use another individual's account without specific written permission from that individual. Finally, any unauthorized attempt to logon to the Internet as a system administrator will result in immediate cancellation of all user privileges. And any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to Hale Area Schools' connection to the Internet.

6) *Vandalism* - Vandalism will result in the cancellation of ALL system privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy the hardware, software, or the data of any other user on this system, on the Internet as a whole, or at any of the agencies or other computer networks that are affiliated with or connected to the Hale Area Schools network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading and/or creation of computer viruses.

# Hale Area Schools Internet Use Agreement

- My teacher has explained to me and I understand the correct way to use computers.
- My teacher has explained to me and I understand the correct way to use the Internet.
- My teacher has explained to me and I understand the correct way to treat computers and other people's work.
- I will follow what I have been told. If I do not, I will be disciplined and I may not be able to use computers any longer.

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Student's Name (please print)

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Student's Signature

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Date

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I understand and will abide by the above Internet Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for Hale Area Schools to restrict access to controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for all supervision if and when my child's use of Hale Area School's connection to the Internet is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

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Parent or Guardian's Name (please print)

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Parent or Guardian's Signature

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Date

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## SPONSORING TEACHER

I have read this Internet Use Agreement and as the sponsoring teacher I agree to instruct the student on acceptable use of the network for individual work and/or in the context of other classes. I cannot be held responsible for the student's use of the network and any violations of this agreement.

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Teacher's Name (please print)

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Teacher's Signature

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Date

(Use this page for Elementary School Students)

# Hale Area Schools Internet Use Agreement

I understand and will abide by the above Internet Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for Hale Area Schools to restrict access to controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

.....

I understand and will abide by the above Internet Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for Hale Area Schools to restrict access to controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for all supervision if and when my child's use of Hale Area School's connection to the Internet is not in a school setting. I hereby give permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

.....

## SPONSORING TEACHER

I have read this Internet Use Agreement and agree to fully review this agreement with the student designated in this agreement. As the sponsoring teacher I agree to instruct the student on acceptable use of the network for individual work and/or in the context of other classes, I cannot be held responsible for the student's use of the network and any violations of this agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(Use this page for Middle School & High School Students)

# Hale Area Schools Internet Use Agreement

I understand and will abide by the above Internet Use Agreement. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes. I recognize it is impossible for Hale Area Schools to restrict access to controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network.

In consideration for the privilege of using the Internet and in consideration for having access to the information contained on it, I hereby release Hale Area Schools and its faculty and staff, for any and all claims of any nature arising from my use, or inability to use, the network.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

.....  
**SPONSORING STAFF MEMBER**  
(Must be signed if the applicant is not a staff member of Hale Area Schools)

I have read this Internet Use Agreement and agree to fully review this agreement with the applicant designated in this agreement. As the sponsoring staff member I agree to instruct this person on acceptable use of the network for individual work and/or in the context of a class, I cannot be held responsible for the individual's use of the network and any violations of this agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Member's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Staff Member's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date