

HCCS BOARD OF TRUSTEES: ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

Internet access is available to students and staff at Hilltown Cooperative Charter School.

The Internet is a network of networks that facilitates resource all sharing, innovation and communication for people around the globe. School uses may include:

- Accessing curriculum-related sites on the World Wide Web and gathering information from diverse sources.
- Exchanging information with others, including students, educators and experts from a variety of fields.

The nature of the Internet provides many educational opportunities, but also necessitates personal responsibility for its use.

A responsible user will use of the school's electronic resources:

- In a considerate, ethical, efficient and legal manner.
- To support learning and enhance instruction.
- To complete instructional and administrative tasks requiring research, inquiry, problem solving and/or communication.
- In a manner that complies with Hilltown Cooperative Charter School policies.

A responsible user will NOT:

- Use electronic resources for personal or commercial profit-making enterprises, political lobbying or campaigning, electronic theft, or copyright violations.
- Transmit or download material in violation of state or federal regulations.
- Use language or retrieve information that is profane, obscene, abusive or threatening.
- Use electronic communications to disrupt the use or compromise the security of any electronic resources including hardware/software, networks or files.
- Reveal personal information such as home addresses or phone numbers of self or others.

Such irresponsible uses are unacceptable. Unacceptable uses of the Internet or any telecommunications services will result in immediate revocation of access privileges and, for students, parent's notification. Unacceptable uses may result in additional disciplinary action as

set forth in Hilltown Cooperative Charter School disciplinary policies. Misuse could have legal implications.

Access to the Internet provides connections to other computer systems located worldwide. Parents of students who are users must understand that neither the Hilltown Cooperative Charter School nor its staff controls the content of the information available on these other systems. Some of the information available is controversial and may be offensive. The Hilltown Cooperative Charter School and the staff will make every effort to restrict access to sites it considers inappropriate for HCCS students.

Internet access must be used in a responsible, efficient, ethical and legal manner. The Hilltown Cooperative Charter School will provide instruction in appropriate use of the Internet for both staff and students. Staff and students must agree to follow the rules of this Acceptable Use Policy. Parents will be asked to help insure proper use of the Internet by reviewing this policy with their child(ren) and signing the On-Line Access Contract for Student Use of the Internet along with their child(ren). Students will not be allowed access to the Internet unless the On-Line Access Contract for Student Use of the Internet has been signed by both parent(s) and child(ren).

Revised by Board of Trustees, October 10, 2001

Hilltown Cooperative Charter School
On-Line Access Contract for Student Use of the Internet

Name _____

Home Address _____

I agree to take personal responsibility for following the rules of the acceptable use policy stated in this contract.

I will:

1. Use the on-line resources provided by my school ONLY for activities and projects known to be approved by my teacher(s).
2. Use the on-line resources provided by my school ONLY with the permission of a teacher or other staff member.
3. Use language on-line which is consistent with school policy.
4. Not tamper with equipment or software, nor alter the network interface, nor attempt to gain access to the data and files or others, not attempt to access information on the Internet or other on-line services that is not consistent with the educational goals of the school, nor violate any copyright laws.
5. Not use school equipment to subscribe to outside e-mail services, newsgroups, bulletin board services or other commercial accounts.
6. Report any problems or breaches of this agreement to a teacher or school administrator.
7. Not use the Internet inappropriately and understand that if I do, my behavior will result in:
 - Losing all on-line privileges within the school setting
 - Being subject to disciplinary measures under HCCS Board policy and/or
 - Being referred to the appropriate legal authorities, if warranted.

I understand that the staff at Hilltown Cooperative Charter School reserves the right to inspect any documents and electronic mail sent from or stored within the HCCS domain.

Student signature _____ Date _____

As a parent/guardian of this student, I have read the above contract and I agree that my child may use the on-line resources provided by the school if s/he follows the rules of the contract. I understand that any conduct by my child that is in conflict with the contract will result in the termination of his or her access rights as well as possible disciplinary action.

_____ I give my permission for HCCS to provide access to on-line resources for my child.

_____ I do NOT want my child to use the Internet or other on-line resources.

Parent/Guardian
signature _____ Date _____