

# Dobbs Ferry Schools

## Student Network/Internet Agreement and Permission Form

### Introduction

Dobbs Ferry is pleased to offer our students access to the District's computer technology resources. To use these resources, students and their parents/guardians must sign and return the attached form. Please read this document carefully, review its contents with your son or daughter, sign where appropriate and return to your child's school. Any questions or concerns about this permission form may be referred to the building principal.

### General Network Use

The network is provided for students to conduct research, complete assignments, publish their work, and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to students who agree to act in a considerate and responsible manner. Students are responsible for good behavior on school computer networks just as they are in a classroom or a school hallway. As such, general school rules for behavior and communications apply, and users must comply with district standards and honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond the clarification of such standards, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring or controlling the communications of individuals utilizing the network.

Network storage areas are similar to school lockers. Network administrators may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and ensure that the system is used responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district servers will be private.

In general, when using school technology, students are **not** permitted to:

- Use others' passwords or share their passwords with others
- Damage or modify computers, operating systems or computer networks
- Send or display offensive messages or pictures
- Use obscene language
- Give personal information, such as complete name, phone number, address or photo
- Harass, insult or attack others
- Violate copyright laws
- Access others' folders or files without express permission
- Intentionally waste limited resources, such as paper or bandwidth
- Employ the network for commercial purposes, financial gain or fraud

### Internet / World Wide Web / Social Networking / E-mail Access

Within reason, freedom of speech and access to information will be honored. Families should be warned that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While our intent is to make Internet access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. Filtering software is in use to block content as specified in the Children's Internet Protection Act, but no filtering system is capable of blocking 100% of the inappropriate material available on the Internet. Dobbs Ferry believes that the benefits to students accessing the Internet and using social networking resources outweigh the disadvantages. By using these resources responsibly, opportunities for collaboration enable each student to become self-directed lifetime learners. Ultimately, parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.

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## Student Network/Internet Agreement and Permission Form Publishing to the World Wide Web

Although most of students' work at Dobbs Ferry will be done within a secure, password-protected portal, students will from time to time publish work to the web. This provides students with an opportunity to share their work with a wider audience, receive feedback from external professionals and share with the public what is going on at school. Students agree to only use their first names, not their last names or any other personal identifying information such as age, address, phone number, photos, etc. Students should also not publish work that contains copyrighted materials without proper permission and/or citation when appropriate.

### Violations to this Policy

Violations may result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

#### Student User Agreement:

As a user of the Dobbs Ferry computer network, I hereby agree to comply with the statements and expectations outlined in this document and to honor all relevant laws and restrictions.

Student Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Parent/Guardian Permission for the Publication of Student Work to the World Wide Web:

I have spoken with my son or daughter about the responsibilities outlined above when using school technology resources.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

These permissions are granted for an indefinite period of time, unless otherwise requested.

*Revised 7/12/2012*