

Dear Parents:

We are pleased to offer students of the Seminole County Public Schools access to the district computer network for electronic mail and electronic information. (\* Note: In some schools, limited e-mail is available for students at this time) To use e-mail and electronic networks, students must return a signed parental permission form to their schools. Students, 18 and over, may sign their own forms. The Seminole County Public Schools support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

Access to school and district software, shared files, other electronic networks and e-mail will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while communicating with groups such as scientists, authors and their peers throughout the world. Families should be warned that some material accessible via electronic networks might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people. While our intent is to make electronic network access available to further educational goals and objectives, students may find ways to access other materials as well. We believe that the benefits to students from this electronic access, in the form of information resources and opportunities for collaboration, exceed any disadvantages. The district does provide Internet filtering, but it is acknowledged that filters do not offer 100% protection from accessing inappropriate sites. The district supports resources that will enhance the learning environment with directed guidance from faculty and staff. 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.

General school rules for behavior and communications apply. **Access is a privilege that entails responsibility.** Users will comply with district standards and will honor the agreements they have signed. At any time, an administrator, or representative, may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Students should have no expectation of privacy in any communication sent by e-mail or in regard to Internet or network access. As a reminder of appropriate use, a warning screen will appear on the user's computer at logon and/or other times. This screen is to be maintained at all times and not disabled.

As outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy for Electronic Networks, the following are not permitted, including, but not limited to:

- 1) **Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures**
- 2) **Using obscene language**
- 3) **Harassing, insulting or attacking others**
- 4) **Electronically or physically damaging computers, computer systems, telephone systems or computer networks**
- 5) **Violating copyright laws**
- 6) **Using another's username and password**
- 7) **Trespassing in another's folders, work or file**
- 8) **Employing the network for financial gain or for political or personal business activity**
- 9) **Attempting to send or sending anonymous messages or pretending to be someone else while sending a message**
- 10) **Using unauthorized telephone services, including long distance calls**

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

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal's Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal's Signature