

**NORTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
91 FIDDLERS LANE
LATHAM, NY 12110**

August, 2010

Dear Parents:

SHAKER HIGH SCHOOL - STUDENT NETWORK USE

At Shaker High School, our students and teachers use computers and the Internet as a frequent part of instruction. Each year we review how we can best offer technology resources to students within a safe cyber-environment.

The North Colonie Central School District and Board of Education's n Information Technology and Network Use policy states,

Use of district technology is for school district related use only. The Internet and other electronic research materials are available to staff and students solely for the purpose of completing curriculum and employment requirements. Internet and Intranet use is a privilege, not a right.

The policy includes regulations that detail what is restricted for students, faculty and staff. The regulations cover many different areas of technology use. Each student signs the release form prior to receiving a North Colonie CSD computer account.

With this letter, I would like to more fully explain how those regulations can affect students, and guide what they may or may not do while using district computer resources and our network.

The most important point is that students may not use district technology resources for personal interests, communication or topics that are not related to their school work. Some examples would be:

- Students may not load software programs or applications of any kind onto a school computer resource for any reason. Specifically we prohibit the loading of computer games, or special programs that are not part of our North Colonie software tool kit.
- Students should not be using district technology resources for personal messaging, texting, sharing photos or other multi-media files, or accessing social media sites, such as Facebook, MySpace or YouTube. Students may not create personal web spaces for themselves with district resources.
- Students may not load inappropriate content or files onto district computers, and may not use district resources to search for inappropriate and/or pornographic materials, or display those materials in any way. Students may not use district shared files and workspaces to hold or hide inappropriate materials, programs or passwords.
- Students may not use district resources to send inappropriate material or comments to others, including messages that threaten or bully another student.

We want to make as many resources as possible available for students to support their studies, including a wide variety of Internet resources, journals, opportunities for research, multi-media, animation and video tools, and science and math programs. By following the common sense rules above, we can continue to provide students with the technology tools they need to thrive in our 21st Century workplaces and colleges.

Please go to www.northcolonie.org to review North Colonie Central School District Board of Education network use policies and regulations for further information (Policies #4550, 4550R, 4550-E1, 4550.E2 and 4560.) If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's hall principal or me.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Murphy
Principal