



Internet and Computer use Covenant (Grades 1 – 8)

Salem Lutheran School actively pursues making advanced technology and increased learning opportunities available to our students and staff. When using internet and computers, students, parents, and staff must understand and practice proper and ethical use. Before accessing internet, all students and employees must be instructed regarding procedures, ethics and security.

CONDITIONS AND RULES FOR USE

Our purpose for providing our students access to the internet is to enhance their educational experience, by providing access to additional resources, and an opportunity for collaborating work. To remain eligible to use the internet and computer, a student must agree to the rules and policies of Salem Lutheran School, which are incorporated in this document. Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to; copyright material, threatening or obscene material or material protected as a trade secret.

PRIVILEGE

The use of the internet is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in revocation of the privilege. The Principal will make all decisions regarding whether or not a use has violated this privilege and may deny, revoke or suspend access at any time.

MONITORING

Salem reserves the right to review any material accessed by the user and to monitor file server space in order to make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are inappropriate.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

The school will not request or require a student to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to the student's external and internal accounts or profile. If the school needs to conduct an investigation when there is sufficient evidence to suggest the student's social network account violates this Covenant, student and parent cooperation in sharing content will be expected.

NETWORK ETIQUETTE

All users are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Be polite, do not be abusive in your messages to others. Use appropriate language, do not swear, use vulgarities, etc. Do not engage in activities which are prohibited under state/federal law. Do not reveal your personal address or phone number, nor those of students or colleagues. Electronic mail (email) is not private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Do not use the internet in such that you would disrupt the use of the network by other users. All communications and information accessible via internet should be assumed private property of those who put it on the network.

NO WARRANTIES

Salem makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for service it is providing and will not be responsible for any damages a user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions. Use of any information obtained via the internet is at the user's own risk. Salem specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through this service. All users need to consider the source of any information they obtain and consider how valid that information may be.

SECURITY

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. Users should protect their passwords to ensure system security and their own privileges and ability to continue use of the system. If you feel you can identify a security problem on the internet, you must notify a system administrator. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Attempts to log onto the internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of the user's privileges. Any user identified as a security risk for having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the internet by Salem.

VANDALISM AND HARRASSMENT

Vandalism is defined as any attempt to harm, modify or destroy data of another user, internet, computers, other networks connected to the internet backbone or any other computer program used at Salem. Vandalism and harassment will result in cancellation of user privileges and possible legal action.

ENCOUNTER OF CONTROVERSIAL MATERIAL

On the internet it is impossible to control the content of data and material that may be encountered which is controversial and which users, parents, teachers or administrators may consider inappropriate or offensive. It is the user's responsibility not to initiate access to such material.

PENALTIES FOR IMPROPER USE

Any user violating these rules, applicable state and federal laws, or classroom/district rules will lose internet privileges and will be subject to other disciplinary options. In addition, any unauthorized internet access, attempted access or use of any computing and/or network system that is in violation of applicable state or federal laws will be subject to criminal prosecution.

This form must be completed, dated and on file in the school office before students will be permitted to use the school internet accessible computers.

STUDENT USER

I understand and will abide by the provisions and conditions of this covenant. I understand that any violations of it may result in disciplinary action, the revocation of my access, and appropriate civil action. I also agree to report any misuse of the information system to a teaching staff member or principal. Misuses can be viewed as any message sent or received which indicates or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, inappropriate language, and other issues described in the covenant.

Student user name (please print) _____

Student user signature _____ Date _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Students under the age of 18 must also have the signature of a parent or guardian who has read this agreement. As a parent or guardian of this student, I have read this covenant and understand it is designed for educational purposes. I understand it is impossible for Salem to restrict all controversial materials, and I will not hold Salem School responsible for materials acquired on the internet. I also agree to report any misuse of the information system to the school officials. Misuse can come in many forms, but can be viewed as any messages sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, or inappropriate language. I hereby give my permission and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____