

Policies

Westerly Public Schools Telecommunications

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Purpose of Telecommunications

Telecommunications extend the classroom beyond the school building by providing access to information resources on local, state, national, and international electronic networks such as the Internet. For students, telecommunications use in the Westerly Public Schools is for educational purposes, such as accessing curriculum-related information, sharing resources, and promoting innovation in learning. Learning how to use this wealth of information and how to communicate electronically are information literacy skills which support student achievement and success in the 21st century.

Information Available

- Government publications and databases
- Museums and art galleries
- Maps and other geographic resources
- Encyclopedias and dictionaries
- Magazines and newspapers
- Library catalogs and community directories

Telecommunications Safety

Precautions will be taken to attempt to ensure that the Internet is a safe learning environment. Students will be supervised while using the Internet and will be instructed in the appropriate and safe use, selection, and evaluation of information. Also, software which attempts to filter access to objectionable materials will be accessible on computer networks used by students.

Terms and Conditions

Students shall:

- Use telecommunications for educational purposes only.
- Communicate with others in a courteous and respectful manner.
- Maintain the privacy of personal name, address, phone number, password, and respect the same privacy of others.
- Use only telecommunication accounts and passwords provided by the school.
- Report any incident of harassment to the supervising employee.
- Comply with copyright laws and intellectual property rights of others.

Students shall not:

- Knowingly enter unauthorized computer networks to tamper or destroy data.
- Access or distribute abusive, harassing libelous, obscene, offensive, profane, pornographic, threatening, sexually explicit, or illegal material.
- Install personal software on computers.
- Use telecommunications for commercial, purchasing, or illegal material.

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Disclaimer:

The accuracy and quality of the information cannot be guaranteed. No warranties for telecommunications access are expressed or implied; the Westerly School Department will not be responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable due to technical or other difficulties.

Penalties:

Violations of the Telecommunications Acceptable Use Policy may be a violation of law/civil regulations. Suspension of telecommunications privileges, school disciplinary action, and/or legal action may result from infringement of this policy.

Adopted: March 4, 1998
Revised: November 1, 2002
Revised: January 3, 2007