

Mother Teresa's Regional School
Philosophy and Student Acceptable Use Policy
For Computer and Related Technology Operation
Terms and Conditions

Because of the complex association between so many government agencies and networks, the end user of these networks must adhere to strict guidelines. The following guidelines are provided here so that staff, community, and student users and the parents/guardians of students are aware of their responsibilities. The school may modify these rules at any time by publishing modified rule(s) on the system. The signatures at the end of this document are legally binding and indicated that the parties have read the terms and conditions carefully, understand their significance; and agree to abide by established rules.

INFORMATION CONTENT AND USES OF THE SYSTEM

The user agrees not to publish on or over the system any information that violates or infringes upon the rights of any other person or any information that would be abusive, profane, sexually offensive to an average person, or that, without the approval of the system administrators, contains any advertising or any solicitation of other members to use goods or services. The user agrees not to use the facilities and capabilities of the system to conduct any business or solicit the performance of any activity prohibited by law and to report to the teacher in charge any solicitation by another user from within or outside the system for any unlawful purpose.

Because MTRS provides, through connection to the Internet, access to other computer systems around the world, students and their parents understand that the school and system administrators have no control over content. While most of the content available on the Internet is innocuous and much of it a valuable educational resource, some objectionable material exists. MTRS will provide student access to Internet resources only in supervised environments and has taken steps to lock out objectionable areas, but potential dangers remain. Students and their parents/guardians must accept the fact that some systems may contain defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or otherwise illegal material.

MTRS and the system administrators do not condone the use of such materials and do not permit usage of such materials in the school environment. Parents of minors having accounts on the system should be aware of the existence of such materials and monitor any future home usage of MTRS resources. A student who knowingly brings such materials into the school environment will accept discipline in accordance with the MTRS Student Handbook policies, and such activities may result in termination of that student's usage of the network. If a teacher or system administrator terminates a student's usage, reduction in the subject grade or permanent removal of the student from computer use may result.

ONLINE CONDUCT

Each student specifically agrees not to submit, publish, or display any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or otherwise illegal material; nor shall a user encourage the use, sale, or distribution of controlled substances. Transmission of material, information or software in violation of any Church, local, state or federal law is also prohibited and is a breach of the Terms and Conditions.

Users and their parents/guardians specifically agree to indemnify **Mother Teresa's Regional School** and the system administrators for any losses, costs or damages, including reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the school relating to, or arising out of any breach of this section (**Online Conduct**) by the user. Students may utilize Network resources for education use only; commercial uses are strictly prohibited.

SOFTWARE LIBRARIES

Software is provided to students as a curricular resource. No student may create a new directory or may install, upload, download, remove, copy, or rename software without the express consent of the system administrator. Any software having the purpose of damaging other members' accounts or the MTRS network (e.g., computer viruses) is specifically prohibited. The system administrators, at their sole discretion, reserve the rights to refuse posting of files to immediately terminate the student use of the software libraries or take other action consistent with **MTRS Student Handbook Policies**.

COPYRIGHTED MATERIAL

Copyrighted material must not be placed on or removed from any system connected to the network without the author's permission. Only the owner(s) or persons they specifically authorize may upload copyrighted material to the system. Members may download copyrighted material for their own use. Any member may also non-commercially redistribute a copyrighted program with the express permission of the owner or authorized person. Permission must be specified in the document, on the system or by the author.

PUBLIC POSTING AREAS (MESSAGE BOARDS/USENET GROUPS)

UseNet messages are posted from systems to the Internet around the world and the **MTRS** system administrators have no control of the content of messages posted from these other systems. To best utilize system resources, the system administrators will determine which UseNet groups are most applicable to the curricular needs of the school and will carry these groups on the local system. The system administrators, at their sole discretion, may remove messages posted locally that are deemed to be unacceptable or in violation of the Terms and Conditions. The system administrators, at their sole discretion, further reserve the right to immediately terminate the Student usage of a member who misuses the message boards or UseNet groups.

REAL-TIME, INTERACTIVE COMMUNICATION AREAS

The system administrators, at their sole discretion, reserve the right to immediately terminate the usage of a member who misuses real-time conference features (talk/chat/Internet relay chat).

ELECTRONIC MAIL

Electronic mail (e-mail) is a private electronic message sent by or to another person having Internet mail access. Messages received by the system are retained on that system until deleted by the recipient. Members are expected to remove old messages in a timely fashion. The system administrators may remove such messages if not attended to weekly by the member.

The system administrators may inspect the contents of mail sent by one member to an identified addressee, investigate complaints regarding mail alleged to contain defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or otherwise illegal material. **MTRS** reserves the right to cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to any mail transmitted on the school network.

DISK USAGE

The system administrators reserve the right to set quotas for disk usage on the system. A member who exceeds that quota will be advised to delete files to return to compliance. A member who remains in non-compliance of disk space quotas after seven (7) days of notification will have those files removed by a system administrator.

SECURITY

Security on any computer system is a high priority, especially when the system involves many users. If a member feels that he can identify a security problem on the system, the member must notify a system administrator. The member should not demonstrate the problem to any others. Attempts to log in to the system using either another member's account or as a system administrator will result in termination of the account. Members should immediately notify a system administrator if a password is lost or stolen, or if they have reason to believe that someone has obtained unauthorized access to their account. Any member identified as a security risk will have that account terminated and be subject to other disciplinary action.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of system privileges and other disciplinary measures in compliance with the school discipline code. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm, destroy, or steal data of another user, the system, or any of the agencies or other networks that are connected to the Internet backbone or of doing intentional damage to hardware or software resident on the system. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

GAME PLAYING

Game playing is not permitted on the **MTRS** system unless an administrator deems the activity in conformity to the curricular goal of the school. Game playing over dial-up links or other inter-machine communication is prohibited.

Although drawing and painting have legitimate academic use, those activities are prohibited when done for recreational purposes.

PRINTING

The printing facilities of the **MTRS** network must be used judiciously. Unnecessary printing is a drain on the capacity of the networks, adds expense, and shortens the life of equipment. By developing on-screen proofreading skills and practicing proper use of cut and paste techniques, users can and should conserve printing resources and help the system run more efficiently.

STUDENT CONTRACT
DUE BY SEPTEMBER 9th
Terms and Conditions

I have read the preceding philosophy and policy for use of technology resources in Mother Teresa's Regional School. I understand and will abide by the stated Terms and conditions. I further understand that violation of the regulations is unethical, a violation of school rules, and may constitute a criminal offense or result in civil liability. Should I commit any violations, I understand that my access privileges may be revoked, class credit may be lost, and school disciplinary action may be taken. I may be subject to legal liability. Appropriate legal action may also result.

User Name (please print):

User Signature:

_____ **Homeroom** _____

Parent/Guardian

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the preceding philosophy and policy for acceptable use of technology resources in Mother Teresa's Regional School. I understand that this access is designed for educational purposes and that the school has taken available precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for MTRS and system administrators to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold them responsible for materials acquired on the network. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting. I hereby give my permission to issue an account for my child and certify that the information contained in this form is correct. I acknowledge that my child's violation of the MTRS policy could result in the consequences stated in the student section.

Parent(s) or Guardian (please print)

Signature:

Date

Students will enjoy no MTRS computer access privileges until they return this signed form.