INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

It is the policy of the Richmond County Board of Education that employees and students should be furnished educational opportunities and resources to have access to Internet based instructional programs and administrative services. The primary purpose and mission of the Richmond County Board of Education is to educate students to become lifelong learners and productive citizens in the 21st Century. Technology plays a role in this mission by providing quality programs, information and learning activities along with support and services to improve student learning and enhance instructional and administrative effectiveness. The instructional use of interactive computer and web based technology will prepare students for the future. Technology includes c

y of the Richmond County Schools to: (a) prevent user access over its computer
r transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other
t electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other
ne activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of
ntification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet
t [Pub. L. No. 106 554 and 47 USC254 (h)]. Each school principal or site
r in conjunction with the media/technology committee shall be responsible for
on and monitoring of the Richmond County Acceptable Use Policy.

le Use Policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, employees and visitors (both
inors). All users of the district wide area network and/or other electronic
l services must maintain strict compliance with all applicable ethical and legal
ulations regarding access. The school system reserves the right to monitor,
isclose the contents of any user's files, activities, or communications.

It shall be the policy of the Richmond County Board of Education that users maintain appropriate passwords to obtain access to the network. Login information, user names, and passwords are confidential and it is the responsibility of the user to safeguard that information. Passwords should be at least 8 characters and should contain a number and a capital letter. At no time should any user login with another user's information.

While the Internet is an extremely valuable tool for educational research, information is accessible that may not be appropriate according to community, school, or family standards. The Richmond County Board of Education provides an Internet filtering system which blocks access to a large percentage of inappropriate sites. Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or any material deemed to be harmful to minors will be blocked by the web filtering system. Even though most objectionable sites are blocked, various entities create new inappropriate sites daily. If a questionable site or information is encountered, the same should be reported to the school's Media Specialist or to the Media and Instructional Technology Department. Staff members in Media and Instructional Technology will make every effort to block the site as quickly as possible.

"minor" shall apply to any student properly attending a school within the Richmond County School System.

Sexual Act; Sexual Contact The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in 18 U.S.C. § 2246.

USER PROHIBITIONS: Users should NOT:

A. Post, publish, send or create materials or communications that are defamatory, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or illegal, or engage in any other type of behavior which constitutes bullying or harassment of any kind, or is in violation of the Code of Ethics for Educators, the

- Employees may not download any unauthorized software onto Richmond County School System computers.
- Employees will use system supported technology, including, but not limited to, Web