

**MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**

DATE ADOPTED: June 16, 2005 **FILE SECTOR:** RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY
DATE REVISED: March 15, 2007 **POLICY TITLE:** INTERNET SAFETY
DATE REVISED: June 20, 2013

The Rural Virtual Academy (RVA) provides computers, networking services, online coursework, online educational subscriptions services, e-mail domain access, and various other telecommunication resources to its students and staff. These resources will be integrated, where appropriate, in the Pre-K-8 curriculum. As student(s) or staff of the RVA use telecommunications resources, it is essential that each student and staff person recognize his/her responsibility in having access to vast services, sites, and people. The student(s) or staff person is ultimately responsible for his/her actions in accessing telecommunication services and for adhering to district use policies, procedures, and guidelines.

The RVA cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information or the appropriateness of any material that a student or staff person may encounter online. The RVA believes that the valuable information and interaction available online far outweighs the possibility that student(s) or staff may procure materials that are not consistent with the educational goals of the RVA or district. Our focus is in providing individual student(s) and staff with the understanding and skills needed to use the Internet or other telecommunications in ways appropriate to their educational and work related needs.

Conditions and Rules for Use

Access to the electronic network and resources within the RVA is a privilege, not a right. This privilege will be revoked at any time for deliberate use not consistent with policy RVA - JFC: *Student Code of Conduct* or *Faculty Handbook* of the RVA. Furthermore, unacceptable use may result in suspension or revocation of network privileges and possibly other disciplinary action up to and including possible suspension, termination of enrollment, or expulsion from the district. The student(s), parent(s), and staff agree to not hold RVA responsible for materials acquired by the student(s) or staff on the system, for violations of copyright restrictions, user mistakes or negligence, or any cost incurred by users. Parents shall supervise students while using online services. RVA administration will determine what is unacceptable use and such decisions are final. The following constitutes the conditions and rules for use:

1. Student(s) and staff shall not access or use electronic mail or other computerized communication systems to relay threatening, intimidating, abusive, or harassing measures. Such use may result in criminal sanctions consistent with Wisconsin Statutes 947.0125.
2. Student(s) and staff shall not impose their choices on others, access private files, attempt to break the security systems, copy software illegally, or use computer supplies that are not for school-related activities.

3. Student(s) and staff are prohibited from adding, removing, or otherwise altering software, hardware, or content on the RVA network or equipment without explicit permission.
4. Student(s) and staff accessing district telecommunications systems may not corrupt network integrity by deliberately allowing inappropriate and/or dangerous files (i.e., viruses) to enter the system.
5. Any use of the network to facilitate or engage in illegal activity is prohibited and will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
6. Copyrighted material may not be placed on the network without the copyright owner's permission.
7. Plagiarism is prohibited.
8. Student(s) and staff are responsible for the ethical and educational use of their own accounts. These accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purposes. Student(s) and staff shall not intentionally obtain copies of and/or modify the files or passwords belonging to other users, reveal confidential information, or exhibit online conduct that is unethical, immoral, and/or illegal.
9. The RVA is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its telecommunications services. The RVA is also not responsible for any damages the student(s) suffers, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, hardware system problems, or service interruptions. Use of any information obtained via district technology is at the user's risk.
10. Student(s) and staff are expected to conduct themselves respectfully online. They shall abide by generally accepted rules of network etiquette. This includes but is not limited to: being polite, refraining from using vulgar or offensive language, causing others to feel uncomfortable, harassing others, or creating a disruption within the school or network.
11. RVA equipment shall not be deliberately or willfully damaged. Accidental damage is to be immediately reported to the RVA.
12. Student(s) and staff may not utilize telecommunication resources to conduct any violation of the policy RVA-JFC *Student Code of Conduct* or Faculty Handbook.
13. The RVA Administrator may establish additional rules and procedures that he/she deems necessary to insure proper use of the telecommunications in the academy.
14. It is the responsibility of RVA staff to inform the student of his/her responsibilities when accessing the networks and the proper etiquette for their use.

All RVA communications have no expectation to privacy and the RVA reserves the right to archive all student and staff online communications and behavior.

The RVA also reserves the right to review any material on the RVA-issued accounts and to monitor RVA files and Internet server space in order to make determinations of where the specific uses of the network is appropriate. In reviewing and monitoring user accounts and Internet server space, RVA shall respect the privacy of user-accounts.

The RVA will employ anti-virus and content-filtering software on all RVA accounts.