

Utah Education Network

2-2, Network Acceptable Use Policy

2-1. Purpose

The purpose of the Utah Education Network (UEN), is to advance and promote a world-class public education in Utah. UEN is intended to assist in the collaboration and exchange of information between and among schools, school offices, the Utah Education Network, and other State and educational entities as well as provide access to the 'world of information' via networking facilities like the Internet.

- 1.1 Promote innovation and educational excellence in Utah's public schools by facilitating resource sharing and expanded communications capabilities.
- 1.2 Provide quality, equitable, and cost-effective information and communication resources to the public education community.

2-2 References

- 2.1 53B-17-102 UCA, Utah Education Network
- 2.2 UEN Steering Committee Bylaws, Article III, Section 2
- 2.3 UEN's Mission Statements & Priority Listing for Public Education:
 - 1 To provide electronic mail service and electronic conferencing capabilities to public school professional employees;
 - 2 To provide basic services at no cost to public education end users;
 - 3 After first providing basic services, to provide opportunities for wider networking (interstate and international) by promoting the addition of full Internet services where economically feasible and deemed appropriate by the State Board of Education and UEN;
 - 4 To provide for both administrative and instructional file transfer capabilities where feasible.

2-3 Definitions

Illegal activities - Illegal activities shall be defined as a violation of local, state, and/or federal laws.

Inappropriate use - Inappropriate use shall be defined as a violation of the intended use of the network, and/or purpose and goal.

Objectionable - Objectionable is defined as materials that are identified by the rules and policies of the Utah State Board of Education that relate to curriculum materials and text book adoption.

2-4 Policy

4.1. Network usage will be consistent with the purpose, goal, and mission of the Network. Successful operation of the network requires that its users regard UEN as a shared resource,

4.1.1. Cooperate to form a community of diverse interests in an effort to promote educational excellence and provide world-class education throughout the state of Utah.

4.1.2. It is imperative that UEN members conduct themselves in a responsible, decent, ethical, and polite manner while using the network.

4.1.3. Abide by all local, state and federal laws.

4.1.4. To ensure the smooth and continued operation of this valuable resource, members must adhere to high standards of professional conduct and strict guidelines.

4.2. An Open Network. UEN is an open network in both implementation and spirit and encourages the pursuit of higher knowledge.

4.2.1. It is important to recognize that with increased access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of controversial material that may not be considered of educational value in the context of the school setting.

4.2.2. Further, UEN recognizes the importance of each individual's judgment regarding appropriate conduct in maintaining a quality resource system.

4.2.3. And while this policy does not attempt to articulate all required or proscribed behavior by its members, it does seek to assist in such judgment by providing the following guidelines:

4.3. Illegal Use Prohibited. Any use of UEN for illegal or inappropriate purposes or to access materials that are objectionable in a public school environment, or in support of such activities, is prohibited.

4.3.1. The following uses are also prohibited:

4.3.1.1. Language that is deemed to be vulgar;

4.3.1.2. Any use for commercial purposes or financial gain;

4.3.1.3. Any use for product advertisement or political lobbying;

4.3.1.4. Any use which shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by other users;

4.3.1.5. Extensive use of the network for private or personal business.

4.4. All use of UEN must be in support of a world class public education and educational research in Utah and consistent with the purposes of the network:

4.4.1. UEN accounts shall be used only by the authorized owner of the account. Account owners are ultimately responsible for all activity under their account;

4.4.2. Unbridled and open-ended use of the network in terms of access time cannot be accommodated due to cost. Users are cautioned to exercise prudence in the shared use of this resource;

4.4.3. All communications and information accessible via UEN should be assumed to be private property. Great care is taken by the UEN's administrators to ensure the right of privacy of users. However, it is recommended that users not give out personal information like home addresses and/or telephone numbers. Also, passwords should be kept private and changed frequently;

4.4.4. Neither the USOE nor the UEN have control of the information on the Internet. Other sites accessible via the Internet may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to some people;

4.4.5. Under prescribed circumstances, public school student use may be permitted, provided proper supervision is maintained by school officials and parents;

4.4.6. Under prescribed circumstances, non-educators use may be permitted, provided such individuals provide evidence that their use furthers the purpose and goal of the network and public education in general;

4.4.7. As necessary, the Utah State Office of Education will determine whether specific Public Education uses of UEN are consistent with this policy. The State Office shall be the final authority on use of the Network and the issuance of public education user accounts;

4.4.8. Each school district and school shall define and adopt an Acceptable Use Policy that identifies the standards and guidelines that are appropriate to their local circumstances. However these local policies may not permit uses that are outside of the guidelines of this policy;

4.4.9. All accounts for the school professionals within a district will be issued and managed by the local node administrator(s). The issuing of these accounts will be coordinated with the UEN Network Operations Center;

4.5 This is a legally binding document and careful consideration should be given to the principles outlined herein. Violations of the provisions stated in this policy may result in suspension or revocation of network privileges. Such prescribed circumstances and uses shall be defined in writing by the Utah department of Education and from time to time are subject to change.

2-5. Procedure/Implementation

5.1. Guidelines for Student Accounts on Utah's Public Education Network:

5.1.1. The primary purpose of the UEN is for the use of the public school professional staff and secondary student access. The use of an individual student account is considered to be a privilege and is permitted to the extent that available resources allow.

5.1.2. Secondary students may be granted an account for up to one academic year at a time provided they:

5.1.2.1. Read and agree to follow all guidelines outlined in the Acceptable Use Policy.

5.1.2.2. This agreement is formalized through their signature on the application form;

5.1.2.3. Have at least one teacher sign the application form as a sponsor;

5.1.2.4. Obtain the signature of a parent on the application form.

5.1.3. Elementary students are not allowed individual accounts. Teachers of these grades may apply for a class account, but are obligated to directly teach these students in proper network use and supervise them regarding the Acceptable Use Policy. * The teacher holding this account is ultimately responsible for use of the account and is required to maintain confidentiality with the password (not giving it to students) and is advised to change the password frequently.

5.1.4. Students may not maintain accounts upon graduation unless they otherwise qualify under one of the other acceptable use provisions.

5.1.5. Generally, students are not permitted to enter professional UEN or Usenet discussion groups. Under certain conditions, posting privileges to specific news groups may be granted.

5.1.6. All public school student accounts will be issued by the local node administrators and will receive final approval by the State Office of Education.

5.2The above-mentioned use is subject to revision in policy. In all cases, use by professional public education staff shall take precedence. The State Office of Education reserves its right as final authority on use of the network