Dear Parents:

The Wenatchee School District has the ability to enhance your child's education by providing access to current technologies, including the Internet. The rich sources of information available on the Internet augments the quality of education available to all students by improving their ability to do research, communicate and collaborate with others, and access content appropriate for their educational program. It is our intention to provide an Internet environment that is safe and appropriate for all of our students. The district currently uses a commercial Internet screening product that filters Internet content and does not allow access to pages and/or sites with objectionable material. In addition, district personnel monitor Internet use to ensure that students are using the resources appropriately and design use according to the student's grade level:

> Grades K-3: Limited use for specific projects. Use is teacher-directed and only sites selected by the teacher are accessed. Some teachers within this grade band post grades and/or assignment scores.
>
> Grades 4-5: Use is project-focused and adult-directed and supervised. The teacher selects most of the sites accessed. Search engines used are education-oriented and screened. Some teachers within this grade band post grades and/or assignment scores.
>
> Grades 6-8: Use is adult-directed and monitored. Some independent Internet use is permitted but is supervised and screened. Most teachers within this grade band post grades and/or assignment scores.
>
> Grades 9-12: Students may use the Internet independently and use it as part of class assignments and projects. Computers are monitored and sites are screened. Most teachers within this grade band post grades and/or assignment scores.

At the beginning of each school year, your child's teacher will discuss the appropriate use of technology, including the Internet. The district's Acceptable Use Policy will be reviewed, and students will be expected to follow the rules established in the policy. Your local school may require additional Internet and computer use guidelines to make the experience safe and engaging for students.

Because Internet use is an integral part of learning, all students are granted access when they enroll in our schools. If you DO NOT want your student to have access to the Internet, please contact your school office, and access will be denied. If assignments require the use of the Internet, alternatives will be provided.

The Wenatchee School District is using all of the strategies described in this letter to ensure the safety of students and to restrict access to inappropriate material. However, access to the Internet brings with it the availability of material that is of no educational value, abusive, racially biased, or is otherwise offensive. While district personnel seek to ensure appropriate access, we cannot guarantee that students will not locate material that may be objectionable. We continue to rely on a student's judgment to use the Internet ethically, responsibly, and in accordance with the guidelines outlined by the district.

If you would like to review the district Acceptable Use Policy with your child, it may be viewed and printed from the Wenatchee School District web site at: http://home.wsd.wednet.edu/WSD/learnteach/documents/Policy2022P.pdf, or you can request a copy from the District Office at 663-8161, and it will be mailed to you. Your cooperation in helping students understand appropriate use of the Internet is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Brian Flones
Superintendent Wenatchee School