

PMSD Elementary Internet Policy

Dear Parent:

Penn Manor elementary school students have opportunities to use computer networks and the Internet as part of the educational process. Penn Manor teachers are encouraged to use the Internet and network resources as part of teaching and learning. Computer resources are valuable tools that teachers may use to accomplish educational objectives. Teachers increasingly are incorporating the use of technology into their teaching.

As parents, teachers, and administrators, we are concerned about inappropriate material available on the Internet. Penn Manor takes reasonable measures to ensure that students do not access unacceptable material. Those measures include:

- **BESS** – Bess is an Internet proxy and filtering server. The BESS people maintain a list of inappropriate sites; the blocked site list is maintained continuously.
- **Supervision** – Students are not permitted to use the Internet in unsupervised areas.
- **Pre-defined resources** – Teachers will often provide a list of specific Internet resources which a student should access to complete a project or assignment.
- **Searchopolis.com** – Searchopolis is a child-friendly web search site. It only provides “hits” that are acceptable to BESS. (<http://www.searchopolis.com>)
- **Modeling** – PMSD staff models appropriate network etiquette.

Even with the above provisions, we cannot guarantee that a student will not gain access to objectionable material on the Internet. However, it is our expectation that students will continue to use network resources and the Internet in an acceptable manner. Students who willfully misuse available technology or network access will face disciplinary actions that may include forfeit of computer privileges or suspension. Penn Manor would like to maintain the use of technology and the Internet as an important component of the educational process.

Please check one of the options and fill out the form below:

_____ I grant permission for my child to use the Internet for educational purposes. I understand that all Internet use will be under the direction and supervision of the classroom teacher(s). In addition, I will not hold Penn Manor School District staff responsible for students accessing inappropriate materials that are not at the direction of the teacher.

_____ I do NOT give permission for my child to use the Internet.

Student Name _____

Class _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____