Guidelines for the Use of Public Computers

Please be aware that with access to computers all over the world comes the availability of materials that may be considered “inappropriate” for some users. Parents who are concerned about their children’s use of electronic resources should provide guidance to their own children. We firmly believe that the valuable information and interactions available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility the users may procure information that is not consistent with the educational and research goals of this format.

Use of any Library resource, including the public computers must be consistent with Library policies and all applicable local, state, federal and international law. Copyright and licensing agreements must be honored. No DVD/CD/USB/etc. ripping or downloading of copyrighted material is permitted.

The Library reserves the right to suspend or revoke public computer privileges of anyone who uses a computer in a manner which Library staff determines is inappropriate for a public building, is disruptive, or whose borrowing privileges have been suspended or revoked. All Library computers are filtered.

Certain computer practices are contrary to library purposes, and may disrupt or interfere with fair and/or public use. Prohibited practices include, but are not limited to:

* Downloading files or programs from the Internet onto a hard disk drive, USB, DVD/CD, cloud, etc.
* Harassment of other users
* Libeling or slandering (spamming or flaming) other users
* Violations of another’s privacy
* Disruption or unauthorized monitoring or electronic communication
* Viewing prohibited web sites

The Library staff will only provide basic assistance at public computers, as time and resources permit. Computer classes are scheduled throughout the year. Staff are not permitted to install or configure public computers without express permission of the Library Director and Computer Technician. Staff are not permitted to configure personal devices.

Public Computers automatically shut down fifteen (15) minutes before the Library closes. All work must be completed and/or saved by this time or will be lost.

The Library makes no claim that information given freely to companies through their web sites is secure. There is no claim that the Library’s public computers are secure, although the Library does make a best effort to maintain security. Users should be very careful in giving private information (i.e., social security numbers, credit card numbers, etc.) on the Internet.

Each Internet user accepts sole responsibility for the results of his/her computer activity. The North Babylon Public Library does not monitor or control the Internet. The Library makes no guarantee, expressed or implied, for the accessibility, accuracy, timeliness, or usefulness of anything accessed through the Library’s public computers.

Approved by the Board of Trustees

March 25, 2003

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