



### **Authorization to Access Electronic Networks**

We have the ability to enhance your child's education through the use of electronic networks, including the Internet. The Internet offers vast, diverse, and unique resources. The Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education's (SWCCCASE) goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Your authorization is needed before your child may use this resource.

The Internet electronically connects thousands of computers throughout the world and millions of individual subscribers. Students and teachers may have access to:

- Limited electronic mail communications with people all over the world,
- Information from government sources, research institutions, and other sources,
- Discussion groups, and
- Many libraries, including the catalog to the Library of Congress, and the Educational Resources Information Clearinghouses (ERIC).

With this educational opportunity also comes responsibility. You and your child should read the enclosed *Authorization for Electronic Network Access* and discuss it together. The use of inappropriate material or language, or violation of copyright laws, may result in the loss of the privilege to use this resource. Remember that you are legally responsible for your child's actions.

The Cooperative takes precautions to prevent access to materials that may be defamatory, inaccurate, offensive, or otherwise inappropriate in the school setting. On an unregulated network, however, it is impossible to control all material and a user may discover inappropriate material. Ultimately, parents/guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their child or ward should follow. To that end, the Cooperative supports and respects each family's right to decide whether or not to authorize Internet access.

Please read and discuss the *Authorization for Electronic Network Access* with your child. If you agree to allow your child to have an Internet account, sign the *Authorization* form and return it to your school.

Please retain the attached policy and procedures for future reference.

