

INTERNET SAFETY

The Board of Education is committed to undertaking efforts that serve to make safe for children the use of district computers for access to the Internet. To this end, although unable to guarantee that any selected filtering and blocking technology will work perfectly, the Board directs the Superintendent of Schools to procure and implement the use of technology protection measures that block or filter Internet access by:

- adults to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography, and
- minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors, as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Subject to staff supervision, however, any such measures may be disabled or relaxed for adults conducting bona fide research or other lawful purposes, in accordance with criteria established by the Superintendent or his or her designee.

The Superintendent or his or her designee also shall develop and implement procedures that provide for the safety and security of students using electronic mail and other forms of direct electronic communications; monitoring the online activities of students using district computers; and restricting student access to materials that are harmful to minors.

In addition, the Board prohibits the unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding students; unauthorized online access by students, including hacking and other unlawful activities; and access by students to inappropriate content on the Internet. The Superintendent or his or her designee shall establish and implement procedures that enforce these restrictions.

The Director of Infrastructure Support designated under the district's policy on the acceptable use of district computers (policy 4526) shall monitor and examine all district computer network activities to ensure compliance with this policy and accompanying regulation. He or she also shall be responsible for ensuring that staff and students receive training on their requirements.

All users of the district's computer network, including access to the Internet, must understand that use is a privilege, not a right, and that any such use entails responsibility. They must comply with the requirements of this policy and accompanying regulation, in addition to generally accepted rules of network etiquette, and the district's policy on the acceptable use of computers and the internet (policy 4526). Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, the revocation of computer access privileges.

As part of this policy, and the district's policy on acceptable use of district computers (policy 4526), the district shall also provide age-appropriate instruction regarding appropriate online behavior, including:

1. interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and
2. cyberbullying awareness and response.

Instruction will be provided even if the district prohibits students from accessing social networking sites on District computers.

Instruction will be provided on acceptable use of computers and Internet safety practices.

Cross-ref: 4526, Computer Use in Instruction

Ref: Children's Internet Protection Act, Public Law No. 106-554
Broadband Data Services Improvement Act/ Protecting Children in the 21st
Century Act, Public Law No. 110-385
47 USC §254
20 USC §7131

Adoption date: May 8, 2007

Revised: