

## **Internet Filtering Procedures:**

As a District we place a very high importance on providing an educational environment that is focused on the safety and wellbeing of our students.

The Internet is such a vast and expanding repository of every conceivable topic that sifting out what is appropriate can be a daunting task. To this end the District has employed the use of an Internet Filtering Appliance. The District iBoss Internet filter is tasked with filtering in what is good and filtering out what is bad. This platform is capable of many levels of filtering over a variety of Internet services. Broad Web Categories are set for blanket filtering such as 'Adult Content', 'pornography/Nudity', 'private websites', or 'Gun & weapons'. There are numerous Web Categories to choose to either allow or block. We block some and allow others. For instance we allow Web Categories 'Government', 'Technology', and 'Transportation' but block 'Violence & Hate' and 'Image/Video Search'. The Web Category database is updated daily from the iBoss service. Hundreds of sites are associated with the various Categories with each update.

We also block sites according to application type. Chat, Gaming, and File Sharing applications are blocked from being used. If a website is considered a social media site it is also blocked.

There is a pre-defined list of Keywords of an adult or high-risk nature that if used in a search string or found in a search result will trigger the filter to block the content from displaying in the web page.

Our iBoss filter is very flexible and gives us the ability to unblock specific sites that may fall into one of the filtering rules even though they may contain relevant material for educational purposes. Conversely we can also block specific sites if they are found to be of no educational value or inappropriate for our students. Web filtering is a moving target and can sometimes be difficult to manage. The sheer number of sites added to the Internet each day makes it a daunting and never-ending endeavor.

We have two filtering groups, Staff and Students.

The Staff filtering group is a little less stringent on the areas that it filters. This allows our staff members to preview sites that may be blocked and recommend those they feel are appropriate for their students. They can then notify the Curriculum Department of the site. The Curriculum Department will evaluate the site and approve or disapprove the site for filtering.

The Student filtering group is configured with a tighter filtering level and is applied to all students in the District. This includes filtering above the requirements to meet the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

## Elementary Acceptable Use Policy (based on Policy 7540)

1. I will only use the school district's technology for educational purposes.
2. I will not use the school network to bully others.
3. I will not use my own technology (email, cell phone, cameras, texting, social media, etc.) to bully others.
4. I will not post rumors or negative remarks about students or school staff members.
5. I will not send emails that are mean or threatening.
6. I will not use a camera on a phone, chrome book, etc. to embarrass others. I will not post fake photos or other fake pictures.
7. I will take care of school computers and equipment and never deliberately damage them.
8. I will not open a folder or file that is not mine to use. I will not copy or delete a folder that is not mine or without permission from its owner.
9. I will not violate copyrights, trademarks, or licensing agreements. I
10. I will not use district computer facilities for unsupervised chat rooms, instant messaging or sharing photos
11. I will not use district computer facilities for the purchase, sale and/or advertisement of goods or services. I will not use district computer facilities for political campaigning.

If I do not follow any of the above policies, I understand that the consequences could be:

- a. Temporary or permanent removal of privileges, as determined by the Superintendent or the Principal, including school discipline or legal action.
- b. I would be required to make restitution for any intentional damages to educational technology or unauthorized expenses incurred through the misuse of educational technology.

---

Student Signature

---

Date

As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Acceptable Use Policy for Technology and understand the terms of this agreement. I understand that student access to educational technology is a privilege which is conditioned upon the student's adherence to the Acceptable Use Policy for Technology. I further understand that although the School District prohibits inappropriate use of technology, it is impossible to restrict all access inappropriate materials which may be available on the Internet or through other electronic communications. Accordingly, I will not hold the School District or its employees responsible for materials which may be acquired through the School District's Network.

---

Parent/Guardian Signature

---

Date