

Internet Safety Policy

The Syosset Central School District, in order to comply with federal regulations requiring Internet filtering for schools and libraries receiving E-Rate and Title III funds, will take the following actions and adopt the following policies to address the required elements of this Internet filtering legislation.

Internet Filtering Services:

The district will employ filtering technology on computers with Internet access, and will monitor the online activities of minors. The district has incorporated local content filtering. This filtering system enables the district to fulfill the following policy requirements:

1. *Operation of a technology protection measure that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:*
 - a. Obscene
 - b. Child Pornography
 - c. Harmful to minors
 - d. Other Internet content determined by the District to be inappropriate for minors
2. *Measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors*

District Policy Regarding Inappropriate, Unlawful, and/or Unauthorized Use of Internet Services:

The following policies have been adopted to address district Internet use:

1. *Electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications (i.e. Instant Message services):* To ensure the safety and security of minors during use, the district will restrict Internet use to a limited educational purpose that includes classroom activities, career development and limited, high-quality research. Parent Notification on Student Internet Use will be distributed to parents at the beginning of the school year.
2. *"Hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online:* The district will provide appropriate guidance to students via the professional staff regarding what is lawful and what is appropriate usage of the district's online network systems, online behavior and cyberbullying awareness.
3. *Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors:* The district will maintain firewall technology to ensure that student information is not publicly accessible to unauthorized users, and the district professional staff will provide guidance, instruction and supervision that makes students aware of and assures that students understand the importance of internet privacy and anonymity.
4. *Disabling during certain use to enable access for bona fide research and other purpose:* District will allow authorized professional staff to disable the district's technology protection measure to enable access for bona fide research and other purpose.
5. Online activities of minors will be monitored to ensure compliance with the above.

Age-appropriate Education and Training:

The District will provide age-appropriate training for District students who use the District's Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote the District's commitment to:

- A. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the District's Internet Safety Policy;
- B. Student safety with regard to:
 - i. Safety on the Internet;
 - ii. Appropriate behavior while online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - iii. Cyberbullying awareness and response

Parent Notification on Student Internet Use

Your child is about to learn procedures for research using the Internet. The Internet is a global, cooperative, computer information network which provides the user with instant access to volume of data. It is a non-controlled connection of university, corporate, government and private computers, all communicating with each other through public and private telephone and telecommunication systems.

Computers directly on the Internet can exchange data quickly and easily with any other computer on the Internet to download files, send electronic mail (E-Mail) and provide remote logins. As a result materials may be loaded that you may not want your child to see or read. These materials could include, among other things, pervasively vulgar, pornographic or obscene materials. While the district will attempt to prevent student access to these types of materials, the district cannot assure that an industrious user of the network will not be able to discover this material. Notwithstanding the potential for certain inappropriate information to become accessible on the Internet, the district firmly believes that the valuable information and the interaction available on the Internet far outweigh the possibility that users may procure inappropriate material.

The school district will take all reasonable measures to ensure that students use the Internet only for appropriate school-related research projects.

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