

# **Internet Safety Policy For Richards ISD**

## **Introduction**

It is the policy of Richards ISD to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

## **Definitions**

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

## **Access to Inappropriate Material**

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material the District deems harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

## **Inappropriate Network Usage**

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Richards ISD online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes:

1. Using the Network for commercial purposes.
2. Using the Network for personal purposes which:
  - a. Impose tangible cost on the District;
  - b. Unduly burdens the District's computer or network resources; and
  - c. Has an adverse effect on an employee's job performance or on a student's academic performance.
3. Using the Network to transmit malicious information, rumors, or information known to be inaccurate.
4. Using the Network to transmit ethnically or racially offensive language or slurs,
5. Using the Network to transmit sexually oriented, or threatening materials or messages either public or private.

6. Using the Network to bully, harass, demean, or otherwise harm any person or entity.
7. Posting private information about another person.
8. Using the Network to send, receive, or view information regarding pornography, extreme violence, obscenities, nudity, drugs or other substances prohibited on school grounds, weapons, or otherwise objectionable material.
9. Engaging in any illegal act, such as arranging for a drug sale or the purchase of alcohol, engaging in criminal gang activity, threatening the safety of person, etc.
10. Damaging the security of the Network.
11. Using another individual's Login ID or password.
12. Participating in computer "hacking" activities of any form.
13. Forging or attempting to forge electronic mail messages.
14. Attempting to read, delete, copy or modify electronic mail of other Network users.
15. Attempting to disrupt the Network or destroy data by spreading computer viruses.
16. Vandalizing the Network.
17. Violating copyright laws.
18. Failing to follow network etiquette procedures.
19. Submitting false or misleading information to obtain or retain access to the Network.
20. Accessing the Network in any manner inconsistent with the mission of the school district.
21. Interfering with official school district communications.

### **Education, Supervision and Monitoring**

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Richards ISD staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of Technology Director or designated representatives.

The Technology Director or designated representatives will provide age appropriate training for 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 on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
  - iii. cyberbullying awareness and response.
- c. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies.

## **Adoption**

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of the Richards ISD at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on 02/19/2015.

### **CIPA definitions of terms:**

**MINOR.** The term "minor" means any individual who has not attained the age of 17 years.

**TECHNOLOGY PROTECTION MEASURE.** The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. **OBSCENE**, as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. **CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**, as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. Harmful to minors.

**HARMFUL TO MINORS.** The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

**SEXUAL ACT; SEXUAL CONTACT.** The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.