

## Instruction

### Internet Acceptable Use: Filtering

The South Windsor Board of Education provides computers, computer systems, software, electronic access privileges and networks for students and staff to carry out the mission of the Board in an environment which ensures access to up-to-date information, management and communication services. Responsible use of these systems and networks is expected of all students and staff.

The computers, computer systems, software, electronic access privileges and network are the property of the South Windsor Public Schools and are to be used only for those activities directly related to teaching, learning and/or management by students and staff. The equipment, infrastructure and software are not to be used for personal gain by any student or staff member. All users are hereby made aware that all activity and information on the South Windsor Public Schools computers, computer systems and network are in the public domain, unless specifically protected by the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act.

In order to ensure that the district's Internet connection is used in the appropriate manner and that all users are protected from any inappropriate information published on the Internet, the district will:

1. Provide professional development opportunities to help teachers integrate the use of the Internet into classroom teaching.
2. Implement a system developed to filter out Internet sites with content/materials considered by the administration to be inappropriate, harmful or unacceptable for student viewing. Such content includes, but is not limited to, that which is considered obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors.
3. Restrict the use of the computers, computer systems, software, electronic access privileges and networks to those users who have signed the district's "Acceptable Use Policy." In the case of minors, the "Acceptable Use Policy" must also be signed by the student's parent or guardian.
4. Filter all Internet access, whether minors (under 18) or adults are using the computer systems and regardless of the number of computers with Internet access provided by the school or library.

The district considers attempts to disable or circumvent established filtering a violation of acceptable use.

The Internet changes rapidly making it impossible to filter all objectionable sites. Therefore, the staff role in supervising and monitoring student access to the Internet is critical. In addition, each user has the responsibility to monitor his/her own navigation on the Internet to avoid undesirable sites.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[1-19\(b\)\(11\)](#) Access to public records. Exempt records.

[10-15b](#) Access of parent or guardians to student's records.

[10-209](#) Records not to be public.

[11-8a](#) Retention, destruction and transfer of documents

[11-8b](#) Transfer or disposal of public records. State Library Board to adopt regulations.

[46b-56 \(e\)](#) Access to Records of Minors.

Connecticut Public Records Administration Schedule V - Disposition of Education Records (Revised 1983).

Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (section 438 of the General Education Provisions Act, as amended, added by section 513 of PL 93-568, codified at 20 U.S.C. 1232g.).

Dept. of Education. 34 CFR. Part 99 (May 9, 1980 45 FR 30802) regs. implementing FERPA enacted as part of 438 of General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g)-parent and student privacy and other rights with respect to educational records, as amended 11/21/96.

Public Law 106-554 Fiscal 2001 Appropriations Law containing the "Children's Internet Protection Act"

Public Law 94-553, The Copyright Act of 1976, 17 U.S.C. 101 et. seq.

Public Law 110-385 Broadband Data Improvement Act/Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act

*Reno v. ACLU*, 521 U.S. 844 (1997)

*Ginsberg v. New York*, 390 U.S. 629, at 642, n.10 (1968)

*Board of Education v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 868 (1988)

*Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 U.S. 620, 267 (1988)

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