

INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

MUENSTER ISD

Introduction

It is the policy of Muenster 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** (CIPA) [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions of Terms:

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**. The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
 - a) Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
 - b) 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
 - c) Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

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. Muenster ISD currently uses "**WatchGuard's WebBlocker URL Filter**" for restricting inappropriate internet activity.

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 deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, 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 Muenster 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: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Muenster 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 the Superintendent or designated representatives.

The Superintendent or designated representatives will provide age-appropriate training for students who use the Muenster ISD's Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote MISD's commitment to:

- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the MISD's Internet Safety Policy;
- b. Student safety with regard to:
 - i. safety on the Internet;
 - ii. appropriate behavior while on online, in chat rooms, and on social networking web sites and apps, including, but not limited to Instagram, Snapchat, WhatsApp, Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest, and other similar apps, and;
 - iii. cyber-bullying 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 Muenster ISD Board of Trustees at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on **July 18, 2018**.