

INSTRUCTION

Computer Network, Internet Safety and Technology, Access and Use

This policy and its implementing Rules and Regulation are intended to serve as a guide to the scope of the district’s authority and the safe and acceptable use of the district’s computers, computer network, technology and Internet access. This policy governs all use of district technology, computers, the District’s local and/or wide area network, and access to the Internet through District computers or the District’s local and/or wide area network, which will be collectively referred to in this policy and its implementing Rule and Regulations as the District’s “technology”.

Access to the computer network by students and employees is consistent with and beneficial to the educational mission of the Bannockburn School District. The computer network is intended to support curriculum, instruction, and open educational inquiry and research. Access to the technology serves as a natural extension of the educational lessons learned within the classrooms by providing access to educational resources and reference materials, by reinforcing the specific subject matter taught, by requiring the use of critical thinking skills, by promoting tolerance for diverse views, and by teaching socially appropriate forms of civil discourse and expression. Therefore, authorized users shall be allowed access to district technology consistent with the School District’s curriculum, educational mission, and this policy and implementing Rules and Regulations.

The District’s technology is to be used as part of the educational curriculum and is not intended to be used as a public forum for general use. Access to the technology is a privilege, not a right. The Board of Education has a duty to insure that the manner in which the technology is used does not conflict with the basic educational mission of the School District. Use of technology may be restricted in light of the maturity level of students involved and the special characteristics of the school environment. Therefore, the School District will not permit student use of technology which; (a) causes substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation of the school or school activities; (b) violates the rights of others; (c) is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the maturity level of the student; (d) is primarily intended as an immediate solicitation of funds, or (e) constitutes gross disobedience or misconduct. The District shall also implement technology protection measures consistent with the *Children’s Internet Protection Act* and it’s implementing regulations.

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 by Sonic Wall filter, and/or the similar equipment that will be available in

the future, 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 or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

The Superintendent is authorized to adopt rules and regulations implementing this policy, to draft an implementation plan regarding the use of technology, to appoint an administrator to execute the implementation plan and monitor use of the technology, and to establish such other terms and conditions of technology, and to establish such other terms and conditions of technology access and use that are appropriate to further the District's educational mission.

LEGAL REF.: Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)

CROSS REFERENCE: 7:190 (Student Discipline)

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