

INTERNET SAFETY–STAFF AND STUDENTS

Introduction

It is the policy of the Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSESD) 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.

- a. “Technology protection measure.” This term means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are: Obscene as that term is defined in section 1460 of Title 18, United States Code; Child pornography as that term is defined in section 2256 of Title 18, United States Code; Harmful to minors.
- b. “Harmful to minors.” This term means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that: taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; 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 taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value as to minors.
- c. “Sexual act; sexual contact.” These terms have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of Title 18, United States Code.

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 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. For the purposes of this policy, educating students as to safe Internet and social media use, and cyber bullying awareness and response may justify minimized technology protection measures under appropriate staff supervisions.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the 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 PSESD 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. Violations of the agency's policies governing the use of its network systems shall be reported to the Superintendent or designee.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or his/her designee(s).

The Superintendent or his/her designee(s) will provide age-appropriate training for students who use the PSESD Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote the PSESD's commitment to:

- a. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in Operating Policy No. 5293, Internet Safety – Staff and Students;
- b. Student safety with regard to:
 - i. safety on the Internet;
 - ii. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking websites, and in chat rooms; and
 - iii. cyber bullying awareness and response.
- c. Compliance with E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA")

Following receipt of this training, students will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the policies addressing acceptable use electronic resources and Internet safety.

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Relevant PSESD Board Governance Policies: EL 3, Treatment of Stakeholders
EL 4, Treatment of Staff

Cross References: PSESD Operating Policy No. 5290, Acceptable Use of
Electronic Communication System
PSESD Email/Internet Use Policy #5291

PSESD Email Retention Policy #5292
PSESD Staff Use of Social Media Policy No. 5294

Legal References:

Children's Internet Protection Act (Pub. L. No. 106-554
and 47 USC 254(h)).