

MONTPELIER EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Internet Filtering Policy (Appendix C)

It is intended that internet access will improve the processes of teaching and learning as well as facilitate improvements in communication between all members of the learning community, especially between parents and teachers. The Montpelier School District seeks to establish a secure, appropriate virtual learning space that will be available during and after regular school hours.

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) was signed into law on December 21, 2000. Under CIPA, no school or library may receive discounts unless it certifies that it is enforcing a policy of internet safety that includes the use of filtering or blocking technology (see below). This Internet Safety Policy must protect against access, through computers with internet access, to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or (in the case of use by minors) harmful to minors. The school or library must also certify that it is enforcing the operation of such filtering or blocking technology during any use of such computers by minors.

General Principles:

1. The district shall implement internet filtering software in an attempt to block user access to inappropriate and/or harmful material on the internet. Objectionable content is pre-determined by the district.
2. When the software finds any such objectionable content, it shall deny the user access to the site based on the level of access granted to the user by the district.
3. Filtering technology is not perfect and therefore, may interfere with legitimate educational research. In the event that the filtering software is unsuccessful and children gain access to inappropriate and/or harmful material, the district will not be liable.
4. While school staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise the use of technology including the network and internet, it is impossible to supervise at all times. The Montpelier Exempted Village School District has taken available precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and users may discover controversial information.

Filtering

- LightspeedRocket Web Filter shall be used to filter web access by all users.
- LightspeedRocket Web Report shall be used to monitor all internet use by all users.

Filtering Definitions

- Block – All access is denied.
- Allow – All access is allowed.

Default filtering levels

The default level of access that will be granted to users varies depending on student grade level and employment position. Additional sites may be blocked or allowed at the discretion of the technology coordinator or administrative staff.

	<i>Description</i>	<i>K-6 Student</i>	<i>7-12 Student</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Adult Content				
Adult	Adult products, services, situations and humor	Block	Block	Block
Adult Art	Adult Art	Block	Block	Block
Adult body art	Body art, tattoos, body piercings	Block	Block	Block
Adult games	Adult Games	Block	Block	Block
Adult language	Strong Language	Block	Block	Block
Adult lifestyles	Adult lifestyles	Block	Block	Block
Alcohol	Production, promotion and sale of alcoholic beverages	Block	Block	Block
Drugs	Sites promoting illicit and illegal drug use	Block	Block	Block
Gambling	Gambling, casinos, betting, lottery and play-for-cash/sweepstakes	Block	Block	Block
Offensive	Websites considered to be offensive to both adults and children	Block	Block	Block
Porn	Pornography related sites	Block	Block	Block
Porn illicit	Websites containing potentially illegal pornographic material.	Block	Block	Block
Suspicious	Recently discovered sites with suspicious words or phrases	Block	Block	Block
Violence	Sites promoting violence and anarchy	Block	Block	Block

	<i>Description</i>	<i>K-6 Student</i>	<i>7-12 Student</i>	<i>Staff</i>
Forums, Chat, Email				
Forums	Unmoderated personal expression	Block	Block	Allow
Forums Blogs	Web blogs	Block	Block	Allow
Forums Dating	Dating websites like friendfinder, eharmony, and match.com	Block	Block	Block
Forums IM	Instant messaging	Block	Block	Block
Forums Mail	Email sites	Block	Block	Allow
Forums Newsgroups	Newsgroups, usenet and subscription newsletters	Block	Block	Allow
Forums p2p	Peer to peer sites	Block	Block	Block
Forums Personals	Personal web pages and personal ads	Block	Block	Block
Forums Social Networking	Social network and related websites such as myspace & facebook.	Block	Block	Block
Security				
Parked	Pay per click hosting web sites that park expired domains	Block	Block	Allow
Security	Security risks	Block	Block	Allow
Security Nettools	Net tools, remote admin tools, internet server and client applications	Block	Block	Allow
Security Proxy	Web proxy servers and open SMTP relays	Block	Block	Allow
Normally Allowed Categories				
Ads	Ad servers and advertising companies	Allow	Allow	Allow
Shopping Spam	Shopping websites that use spam email for marketing	Block	Block	Block
Spam	Sources of spam mail that does not involve porn, gambling, or drugs	Block	Block	Block
Business and Work				
Automobile	Automobiles and motorcycles	Allow	Allow	Allow
Business	Business	Allow	Allow	Allow
Construction	Construction, building, plumbing, home improvement	Allow	Allow	Allow
Finance	Banking, stock markets, insurance, and financial news	Allow	Allow	Allow
Jobs	Employment search, offerings and support	Allow	Allow	Allow
Manufacturing	Manufacturing, industrial, and shipping companies	Allow	Allow	Allow
Real Estate	Real estate, homes, offices	Allow	Allow	Allow
Computers	Computers & Internet	Allow	Allow	Allow
Consumer Electronics	Consumer electronics - TVs, cell phones, MP3 players, etc.	Allow	Allow	Allow
Computers File hosting	Image, file hosting, shareware, freeware websites	Block	Block	Allow
Ham	Legitimate sources of email	Block	Block	Allow
Law	Law firms, courts, and legal matters	Allow	Allow	Allow
Microsoft	Microsoft and related sites	Allow	Allow	Allow
Weapons	Web sites about guns, swords, knives, and other weapons	Allow	Allow	Allow
Education				
Education	Education and reference sites	Allow	Allow	Allow
Arts	Art, art history, architecture, graphic design, and illustration	Allow	Allow	Allow
Games	Educational games for kids	Allow	Allow	Allow
History	History	Allow	Allow	Allow
Lifestyles	Education about lifestyles - gay, lesbian, alternate	Allow	Allow	Allow
Literature	Literature, libraries, writers	Allow	Allow	Allow
Media	Educational streaming media resources	Allow	Allow	Allow
Music	Music education, history, instruments, marching, and museums	Allow	Allow	Allow
Science	Science and technology	Allow	Allow	Allow
Sex	High school level sex education websites	Block	Allow	Allow
Social Science	Social sciences	Allow	Allow	Allow
Family Life				
Family	Family life, cooking, gardening, home improvement	Allow	Allow	Allow
Food	Restaurants, grocery stores, recipes	Allow	Allow	Allow
Health	Health care	Allow	Allow	Allow
Religion	Religion & Spirituality	Allow	Allow	Allow
Photography	Photography	Allow	Allow	Allow
Kids and Teens				
Kids and Teens	Kid safe web sites	Allow	Allow	Allow
Chat	Monitored chat websites suitable for kids	Allow	Allow	Allow

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Miscellaneous				
Expired	Domains whose registration has expired	Block	Block	Allow
General	General interest	Allow	Allow	Allow
Plagiarism	Web sites that sell term papers, research papers, and other ways to help students cheat	Block	Block	Allow
Recreation				
Audio-Video	Sources of MP3s, mpegs, and streaming audio/video	Block	Block	Allow
Entertainment	Movies, television, radio, and celebrities	Block	Block	Allow
Radio and TV	Radio and TV stations	Block	Block	Allow
Games	Games, anime, cartoons, wallpapers and screen savers	Block	Block	Block
Hobby	Hobbies, crafts, collecting	Allow	Allow	Allow
Humor	Humor, puzzles, and brain-teasers	Allow	Allow	Allow
Music	Bands and artists, concerts, DJs, lyrics, songwriting, and record labels	Block	Block	Allow
Shopping	Shopping sites	Block	Block	Allow
Shopping – Auctions	Auctions	Block	Block	Block
Shopping – Office Supplies	Major office supply websites	Allow	Allow	Allow
Sports	Sports sites	Allow	Allow	Allow
Sports – Fantasy	Fantasy football, baseball, soccer, etc.	Block	Block	Block
Sports – Martial Arts	Martial arts	Block	Block	Allow
Sports – Youth	High schools sports teams and youth sports leagues	Allow	Allow	Allow
Travel	Hotels, resorts, cruises, transportation and vacation offerings	Allow	Allow	Allow
Reference				
Directory	Directories and portals about specialized topics	Allow	Allow	Allow
New	News and magazines	Allow	Allow	Allow
Search	Major search engines	Allow	Allow	Allow
Society				
Government	Federal, state, local and international government	Allow	Allow	Allow
Society	Culture, issues, ethnicity, people	Allow	Allow	Allow
Crime	Crime and the justice system	Allow	Allow	Allow
Politics	Politics, political activism, political issues	Allow	Allow	Allow
World	Sites about regions and languages of the world	Allow	Allow	Allow
World – Foreign Language	Sites in foreign Language	Block	Block	Block