



Spring Branch ISD
Inspiring minds. Shaping lives.

Content Filtering Committee



SBISD Content Filtering Committee

Agenda

- Introductions
- Purpose and Charge
- Current Filtering Practices
- Reminder of Current Practices
- Decisions Needed

Content Filtering Committee

Membership consists of 25 members from:

- Technology Services
- Compliance Officer
- HR Director
- Academic Directors
- Student Support Directors
- School Safety Director
- Principals
- Teachers
- Parents
- Community Members

Committee Meetings

Committee Charge

- Maintain compliance with federal law related to the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)
- Maintain compliance with Board policy
- Maintain governance over the district's electronic communication and data management (CQ-R) Administrative Guideline for Internet Content Management and Filtering
- Provide input from your role's perspective
- Provide feedback on the district's Internet content management and filtering practices
- Consider requests from employees to use or unblock a blocked site
- Make recommendations regarding approval or disapproval of disabling the filter

Committee Meetings

- The committee will hold a minimum of two meetings a year. A majority of committee members should be present to hold any scheduled meeting.
- Failure to attend two consecutive meetings will result in removal from the committee.

Federal law – Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

- Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) enacted by Congress in 2000 to address concerns about children's access to obscene or harmful content over the Internet
 - Must certify having an Internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures
 - Must block or filter Internet access to pictures that are: (a) obscene; (b) child pornography; or (c) harmful to minors (for computers that are accessed by minors).

CIPA implementation in SBISD

- SBISD must adhere to CIPA by law
- In addition to Board policy, SBISD does the following:
- Acceptable Use Policy Acknowledgement
 - Mandatory, annual staff member professional development
 - Mandatory annual parent acknowledgement during the registration\verification process
 - Annual student Digital Citizenship internet safety lessons
- Additional content provide by campuses to parents (parent night, back to school events)

CIPA implementation in SBISD

- SBISD uses multiple techniques. On average:
 - Blocks 30,284 websites per week
 - Blocks over 38,449 malicious website requests
- Over 66 million malicious/phishing/spam url's blocked
- Continually refining and improving the process
- No solution is 100%

Content Filtering Practices – Categories “Blocked”

- **Potentially Liable**

- Child Abuse
- Illegal or Unethical
- Explicit Violence Proxy
- Hacking
- Drug Abuse
- Avoidance
- Discrimination
- Plagiarism
- Extremist Groups

- **Adult/Mature Content**

- Alcohol
- Dating
- Pornography
- Marijuana
- Nudity & Risqué
- Other Adult Materials
- Lingerie & Swimsuit
- Tobacco
- Weapons (sales)
- Gambling
- Sports Hunting & War Games

- **Security Risk**

- Malicious Websites
- Spam URLs
- Phishing

Content Filtering Practices – Categories “Blocked”

- **Bandwidth Consuming**

- Freeware and Software Downloads
- Internet TV
- Internet Telephony

Peer-to-peer File Sharing

Streaming Media & Download

- **General Interest – Personal**

- Brokerage and Trading
- Domain Parking
- Games
- Instant Messaging
- Meaningless Content
- Newsgroups & Message Boards

Personal Privacy

Personal Websites and Blogs

Social Networking

Society and Lifestyles

Web Chat

- **Unrated**

Social Media

SBISD Network Content Filter -- Social Media Access Overview									
	YouTube	Facebook	Snapchat	Twitter	WhatsApp	LinkedIn	Instagram	Pinterest	TikTok
Filtering Policy									
Staff Members	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Elementary School	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Middle School	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
High School	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

Reminder – Review Process

- As part of the new software approval process, any resource “denied” will be blocked
- Requests to block\unblock are submitted via a KACE ticket and brought as a list to the Filtering Committee
- Technology Services may choose to “take action” prior to a committee meeting
- Final approval made by the Filtering Committee
- Decisions made by consensus

Action Requested

Sites Requested to Block for discussion:

1. Pinterest – increase in adult content/images
 2. Block Spotify for ES students (now shows videos)
 3. Teachers Pay Teachers – due to copyright concerns, not aligned to curriculum and illegal content (common core)
 4. Etsy - – increase in adult content/images
 5. Soap2Day – video streaming site
 6. TeenFic – Online stories
- **Action Requested**
 - Technology Services requests to add to block list
 - Seeking approval of actions

Proposed Actions Taken

Sites Requested to Unblock:

1. HCC ELA Course - <http://shakespeare.mit.edu/Poetry/sonnets.html>
 1. Used by HS students attending HCC classes for dual credits
- **Action Taken**
 - Academics approved website
 - Technology Services added to whitelist
 - Seeking final approval of the actions taken

Next Meeting

April 26th, 2023 at 4:00pm



QUESTIONS?