

SAFE TECHNOLOGY and DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP **A New Responsibility for School Community Councils**

Summary of Responsibilities

The intent of HB 213 Safe Technology Utilization and Digital Citizenship in Public Schools is to involve school community councils in an on-going discussion (at least annually) about creating a safe technology environment for students in public schools. As with other responsibilities of school community councils, it is intended that administrators, staff and parents engage together to bring about the best possible result for students.

The State Board Rule R277-491 requires a report to the councils from the district and school level administration about the technology and training that is currently in place at your district and school. The report will provide some background for the councils to begin a school specific discussion of safe technology and digital citizenship.

Administration Responsibilities – Report to School Community Councils

The district report should include but may not be limited to:

- What filters are being used and how do they work?

Salt Lake City School District uses the Content Keeper Internet Filter. This device sits between the Internet and the District network. All Internet Traffic passes through this filter. Each web page has a category such as Education, Sports, News, etc... Sites are blocked or allowed based upon these site categories. Some newer websites have not been categorized. Uncategorized websites are automatically blocked. Faculty and Staff can request that a website be unblocked. At that point, the website is either categorized or manually reviewed for propriety. If the website is appropriate, then it is unblocked.

- Are there different settings used for different grades and school levels?

Currently filtering levels are set to differentiate between elementary students, secondary students and staff, however, Content Keeper has the capability of applying settings for different grades and we are actively working to configure filtering for different grades and school levels.

- What is the district filtering policy on frequently used sites such as YouTube, Google Images, Weebly, and etc.?

YouTube is generally blocked for students, but not for faculty. Faculty and staff can request a specific YouTube video be unblocked or they can use a tool called MyVRSpot to allow students to view individual videos. Google Images is not blocked but is forced into Safe Search mode to prevent inappropriate images from displaying. Weebly is not currently blocked. Similar sites to these are reviewed by District Administrators for educational appropriateness to determine if they should be allowed.

- Are there management systems available (MDM, Chrome management, LanSchool, and etc.) that can add additional control and who accesses those systems?

Salt Lake City School District uses Casper Jamf Mobile Device Management to force mobile devices to use the Content Keeper filter, whether on or off campus. Jamf also adds additional controls such as who can access the system or which applications can be installed. LanSchool is used in many of our schools to monitor student's screens during lab time.

- What resources does the district provide concerning educating students on safe internet use and digital citizenship?

During registration, students and parents are presented with the District's Acceptable Use Policy which outlines the District's expectation for responsible use and digital citizenship. In addition, every year, each school is responsible for reviewing responsible and acceptable use with the students. Some of the tools that schools employ are a video created by the Utah Education Telehealth Network, the NetSmartz website, Common Sense Media, and Digital Responsibility.

- What is the protocol in district schools when inappropriate content is accessed for students, employees and parents?

Students, parents, and employees are asked to report any inappropriate content that is accessed through the District's Internet Filter. The websites are then reviewed and blocked. If a student, parent, or employee fail to report inappropriate content and it is discovered, the District Administrator responsible for the student, parent, or employee reviews the material and may remove Internet privileges or impose other discipline. District Administrators may request a report of Internet Activity at any time. Each elementary and middle school Principal automatically receives a weekly report of Internet Activity for their school. High school Principals receive a daily report.

- Explanation of district capabilities or inability to change filtering, settings and management tools based on best practices, technological limitations, and funding. Where applicable, districts could include what is provided in connection with e-rate funding.

Salt Lake City School District chose the Content Keeper filtering system because it was the system chosen by UETN. This is the most cost effective solution, because UETN pays the licensing costs, while providing good filtering and reporting capabilities. Changes to the District's filtering system and/or mobile device management system would require increased funding and additional training.

Schools should add to the district report (at a minimum):

- What devices are being used and how are classes using them?

Students utilize laptops, desktops, and iPads. These devices are used accessing online and digital curriculum, testing, and for typing practice.

- What are the main applications, programs, and sites used in different classes, grade levels, and subject areas?

Canvas, Zoom, NewsELA, uen.org, LexiaPowerUp, Word Press, RazKids, Ev3 Programmer, Edcreations, Nearpod, Padlet, Popplet Lite, Voki for Education, Epic!, Quizlet Flashcards, Desmos.

- What supervision practices are in place when students are online?

District filters and teacher supervision.

- Are there management tools used that allow teachers to digitally monitor student use or limit access to some applications or sites?

Yes. Salt Lake City School District uses Content Keeper Internet Filter to force mobile devices to use the filter, whether on or off campus. Content Keeper also adds additional controls such as who can access the system or which applications can be installed.

- What are the school rules when inappropriate information appears for students, staff and parents? Are there safe reporting procedures for students, staff, and parents so that reporting is safe and encouraged, when it happens?

Students, parents, and employees are asked to report any inappropriate content that is accessed through the District's Internet Filter. The websites are then reviewed and blocked. If a student, parent, or employee fail to report inappropriate content and it is discovered, the District Administrator responsible for the student, parent, or employee reviews the material and may remove Internet privileges or impose other consequences. District Administrators may request a report of Internet Activity at any time. Each elementary and middle school Principal automatically receives a weekly report of Internet Activity for their school.

- How does the school balance access and safety appropriate for the grade levels at your school?

Mrs. Powell receives a weekly report for the district IT department that lists and searches deemed inappropriate. The report identifies the individual who made the search. Students who end up on this report are subject to loss of access computer privileges. The 1st time a student comes up as having made and inappropriate search they receive a warning. The 2nd time they have their access limited and parents are contacted.

- What does the administration see as important opportunities for our students related to constructive, proactive technology use?

SLCSE is incorporating technology instruction into academic classes. We will continue to support students to gain 21st century digital skills and engage in digital citizenship curriculum. We also have a partnership with Spy Hop for students to engage with technology they may not ordinarily be able to as well as work with adult mentors in learning techniques in using the technology through the arts. SLCSE is part of the statewide Digital Teaching and Learning grant. A portion of this grant is on Digital Citizenship. Students participate in explicit digital citizenship curriculum.

- What does the administration see as their greatest threats for your students?

Keeping up with the loopholes that students can use to get around the safety measures that exist, as brought forward by students, parents, and teachers. Resolving cyberbullying (social media) incidents.

- What are the policies in place for devices brought from home – tablets, cell phones, etc.?

9th grade students are asked to keep cell phones in backpacks during class. 10th-12th grade students are asked to keep phones put away (pockets or bags) during class and only utilized under explicit direction of the teacher. If they have their phone out during class without teacher direction, the phone will be sent to the office and the student can pick it up at the end of the day. If the phone ends up in the office a second time, a parent will need to pick it up.

- What does the administration see as the greatest threats for our students on the internet or online?

Social media use- research shows this can have a negative impact on the mental health, increase body image issues, and increase social isolation of students. Cyber bullying continues to be an issue with students.

- Explanation of training currently provided:

- o To students about digital citizenship and safe use of technology?

- The mandatory topics required to fulfill the USBE Digital Literacy requirements are covered yearly through a course students participate in on Canvas.

- o To parents and guardians about how to discuss and support digital citizenship and safe technology use with their children and how to report inappropriate content?

- Safe and healthy technology use information will be shared throughout the year through the school newsletter.