



**Spring Branch ISD**  
Inspiring minds. Shaping lives.

## **Content Filtering Committee**



# **SBISD Content Filtering Committee**

## **Agenda**

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

# Content Filtering Committee

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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
- Board Member

# Committee Meetings

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## 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

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- 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)

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- 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

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- SBISD must adhere to CIPA by law
  - SBISD exceeds the requirements
- Multiple filtering tools
- In addition to Board policy, SBISD does the following:
- Acceptable Use Policy Acknowledgement
  - Mandatory, annual staff and board member professional development
  - Mandatory annual parent acknowledgement during the registration\verification process
  - Annual student Digital Citizenship internet safety lessons
- Additional campus specific information provided to parents (parent night, back to school events)

# CIPA implementation in SBISD

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- 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”

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- **Potentially Liable**

- Child Abuse
  - Illegal
  - 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”

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- **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
- Ride Share
- Instant Messaging
- Web Chat

Personal Privacy

Personal Websites and Blogs

Social Networking

Society and Lifestyles

Message Boards

- **Unrated**

# Social Media

## SBISD Content Filtering – Social Media Access Overview

	YouTube	Facebook	Snapchat	Twitter	WhatsApp	LinkedIn	Instagram	Pinterest	TikTok
<b>Filtering Policy</b>									
Staff Members	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Elementary School	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Middle School	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No
High School	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No

\*YouTube restricted with Safe Search

# Reminder – Review Process

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- As part of the software approval process, any resource “denied” is blocked
- Requests to block\unblock are submitted via a KACE ticket then brought to the Filtering Committee for final decision
- Technology Services may choose to take immediate action prior to a committee meeting based on content or instructional needs
- Final decisions are made by the Filtering Committee
- Decisions made by consensus

# Action: Request to Ratify (Block)

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Technology Services has already blocked the following apps and is **requesting ratification of the actions.**

## **Sites Requested to Block for final decision:**

1. ChatFAI – AI site for chatting with movie characters
2. Tybsi – gaming site

- **Action Requested**

- Technology Services requests to maintain these sites on block list
- Seeking approval of actions

# Action: Request to Ratify (Block)

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Technology Services has not taken any action on the following. The the following apps were requested by a parent **to block**:

## **Sites Requested for discussion:**

1. Facebook for MS students
2. Facebook for HS students
3. YouTube for MS students
4. YouTube for HS students

- **Action Requested**

- Technology Services requests direction from the committee

# Action: Request to Ratify (Unblock)

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## Sites Requested to Unblock:

1. BlueBook App
  1. Collage Board testing site

- **Action Taken**

- Academics approved websites
- Technology Services added to whitelist
- Seeking final approval of the actions taken

# Action: Seeking Recommendation (Discussion)

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## Sites needing further discussion:

- 1. AI for Staff Use – Pilot Phase**
  1. ChatGPT – Pilot phase for Administrators
  2. MagicSchoolAI – Pilot phase for Ed Tech
- 2. Ed Tech to discuss pilot**



# Next Meeting

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April 2025

# Social Media

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**QUESTIONS?**