

**SUBJECT: THE CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT:
INTERNET CONTENT FILTERING/SAFETY POLICY**

The Board of Education acknowledges its responsibility to provide a safe environment for students using the internet. One of the primary concerns of the Board is the protection of our children.

In compliance with The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the District has adopted and will enforce this Internet safety policy that ensures the use of technology protection measures (i.e., filtering or blocking of access to certain material on the Internet) on all District computers with Internet access. Such technology protection measures apply to Internet access by both adults and minors with regard to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or, with respect to the use of computers by minors, considered harmful to such students. Further, appropriate monitoring of online activities of minors, as determined by the building/program supervisor, will also be enforced to ensure the safety of students when accessing the Internet.

The Board of Education's decision to utilize technology protection measures and other safety procedures for staff and students when accessing the Internet fosters the educational mission of the schools including the selection of appropriate teaching/instructional materials and activities to enhance the schools' programs; and to help ensure the safety of personnel and students while online.

Filtering software and/or hardware will be used to block minor's access to:

- a) Visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or harmful to minors; and
- b) Internet sites which, in the Board's determination, contain material which is " inappropriate for minors."

Adult access to visual depictions that are obscene and/or child pornography will also be blocked.

However, no filtering technology can guarantee that staff and students will be prevented from accessing all inappropriate locations. Proper safety procedures, as deemed appropriate by the applicable administrator/program supervisor, will be provided to ensure compliance with the CIPA.

The Board will from time to time determine by resolution what internet material is "inappropriate for minors" in the Roxbury Central School District. This determination will be based on community standards. It is acknowledged that the determination of such "inappropriate" material may vary depending upon the circumstances of the situation and the age of the students involved in online research.

In addition to the use of technology protection measures, the monitoring of online activities and access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web may include, but shall not be limited to, the following guidelines:

- a) Ensuring the presence of a teacher and/or other appropriate District personnel when students are accessing the Internet including, but not limited to, the supervision of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging and other forms of direct electronic communications as an educational tool. As determined by the appropriate building administrator, the use of e-mail and chat rooms may be blocked as deemed necessary to ensure the safety of such students;
- b) In compliance with this Internet Safety Policy as well as the District's Acceptable Use Policy, unauthorized access (including so-called "hacking") and other unlawful activities by minors are prohibited by the District; and student violations of such policies may result in disciplinary action; and

- c) Appropriate supervision and notification to minors regarding the prohibition as to unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding such students.

The terms "minor," "child pornography," "harmful to minors," "obscene," "technology protection measure," "sexual act," and "sexual contact" will be as defined in accordance with CIPA and other applicable laws/regulations as may be appropriate and implemented pursuant to the District's educational mission.

The school District shall provide certification, pursuant to the requirements of CIPA, to document the District's adoption and enforcement of its Internet Safety Policy, including the operation and enforcement of technology protection measures (i.e., blocking/filtering of access to certain material on the Internet) for all school District computers with Internet access.

Internet Safety Instruction

In accordance with New York State Education Law, the School District may provide, to students in grades K through 12, instruction designed to promote the proper and safe use of the internet. The Commissioner shall provide technical assistance to assist in the development of curricula for such course of study which shall be age appropriate and developed according to the needs and abilities of students at successive grade levels in order to provide awareness, skills, information and support to aid in the safe usage of the internet.

Notification/Authorization

The District's Acceptable Use Policy and accompanying Regulations will be disseminated to parents and students in order to provide notice of the school's requirements, expectations, and student's obligations when accessing the Internet.

Student access to the Internet will automatically be provided unless the parent has submitted written notification to the District that such access not

be permitted. Procedures will be established to define the process by which parents may submit a written request to deny or rescind student use of District computers.

The District has provided reasonable public notice and has held at least one (1) public hearing or meeting to address the proposed Internet Content Filtering/Safety Policy prior to Board adoption.

Furthermore, appropriate actions will be taken to ensure the ready availability to the public of the District's Internet Content Filtering/Safety Policy, as well as any other District policies relating to the use of technology.

47 United States Code (USC) Sections 254(h) and 254(l)
47 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 54
Education Law Section 814

Adopted: 9/9/09