



### Internet Safety/Internet Content Filtering Policy

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Library 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 Library 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. The Library will provide for the education of students regarding appropriate online behavior including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and regarding cyberbullying awareness and response. Further, appropriate monitoring of online activities of minors, as determined by the Director or supervisor on duty, will also be enforced to ensure the safety of patrons when accessing the Internet.

Further, the Board of Trustee's decision to utilize technology protection measures and other safety procedures for staff and patrons when accessing the Internet fosters the educational mission of the Library including the selection of appropriate instructional materials and activities to enhance the Library's programs; and to help ensure the safety of personnel and patrons while online.

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

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:

- Ensuring the presence of a staff member and/or other appropriate Library personnel when patrons 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 determined by the appropriate staff member, the use of email, chat rooms, as well as social networking websites, may be blocked as deemed necessary to ensure the safety of such patrons;
- Monitoring logs of access in order to keep track of the web sites visited by patrons as a measure to restrict access to materials harmful to minors;
- In compliance with this Internet Safety Policy as well as the Library's Computer/Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Policy on Public Use of the Internet, unauthorized access (including so-called "hacking") and other unlawful activities by minors are prohibited by the Library; and patron violations of such policies may result in disciplinary action; and
- Appropriate supervision and notification to minors regarding the prohibition as to unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information regarding such students.

The determination of what is "inappropriate" for minors shall be determined by the Library official(s). It is acknowledged that the determination of such "inappropriate" material may vary depending upon the circumstances of the situation and the age of the patrons involved in online research.

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 Library's mission.

Under certain specified circumstances, the blocking or filtering technology measure(s) may be disabled for adults engaged in bona fide research or other lawful purposes. The power to disable can only be exercised by the Library Director, or other person authorized by the Library Director.

The Library shall provide certification, pursuant to the requirements of CIPA, to document the Library'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 Library computers with Internet access.

#### **Access to Inappropriate Content/Material and Use of Personal Technology or Electronic Devices**

Despite the existence of Library policy, regulations and guidelines, it is virtually impossible to completely prevent access to content or material that may be considered inappropriate for patrons. Patrons may have the ability to access such content or material from their home, other locations off - premises and/or with a patron's own personal technology or electronic device on Library property

The Library is not responsible for inappropriate content or material accessed via a patron's own personal technology or electronic device or via an unfiltered Internet connection received through a patron's own personal technology or electronic device.

#### **Notification/Authorization**

The Library's Internet Safety/Internet Content Filtering Policy must be made available to the FCC upon request. Furthermore, appropriate actions will be taken to ensure the ready availability to the public of this policy as well as any other Library policies relating to the use of technology.

The Internet Safety/Internet Content Filtering Policy is required to be retained by the library for at least five (5) years after the funding year in which the policy was relied upon to obtain E-rate funding.

*47 United States Code (USC) Sections 254(h) and 254(l)*

*47 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 54*

*Education Law Section 814*



Request for Reconsideration of Access to a Website

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Website Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like this website to be blocked or unblocked? \_\_\_\_\_

***Library administration will evaluate your request and notify you within two weeks.***