Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

Background

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) was enacted by Congress in 2000 to address concerns about **children's** access to obscene or harmful content over the Internet. CIPA imposes certain requirements on schools or libraries that may receive discounts for Internet access or internal connections through the E-rate program – a program that makes certain communications services and products more affordable for eligible schools and libraries. In early 2001, the FCC issued rules implementing CIPA and provided updates to those rules in 2011.

What CIPA Requires

Schools and libraries subject to CIPA may not receive the discounts offered by the E-rate program unless they certify that they have an Internet safety policy that includes technology protection measures. The protection measures must block or filter internet access to pictures that are: (a) obscene; (b) child pornography; or (c) harmful to minors. Before adopting this Internet safety policy, schools and libraries must provide reasonable notice and hold at least one public hearing or meeting to address the proposal.

Schools subject to CIPA have two additional certification requirements: 1) their Internet safety policies must include monitoring the online activities of minors; and 2) as required by the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, they must provide for educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Schools and libraries subject to CIPA are required to adopt and implement an Internet safety policy addressing:
- (a) access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet;
- (b) the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- (c) unauthorized access, including so-called **"hacking," and other unlawful activities by minors** online;
- (d) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
- (e) **measures designed to restrict minors' access to material harmful to minors.**

Schools and libraries must certify they are in compliance with CIPA before they can receive E-rate funding. However, CIPA does not apply to schools and libraries receiving discounts for telecommunications service only. CIPA does allow for an authorized person to disable the blocking or filtering measure during use by an adult to enable access for bona fide research or other lawful purposes and it does not require the tracking of Internet use by minors or adults.

Denton ISD complies with all CIPA requirements as found in the AUP, Board Policy CQ Local, and CQ Legal.

Monitored Use

Electronic mail transmissions and any other use of the electronic communications system by students are not confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated District staff to ensure appropriate use for educational purposes.

The district filters the Internet for objectionable material. However, families should be aware that some material might still contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. While the intentions of the district are to use Internet resources for constructive, educational goals, students may find ways to access other materials. Inappropriate use will be handled by campus administration. We believe the educational benefits, access to informational resources, and opportunities for global collaboration exceed the disadvantages. The district considers computer and guided Internet use a part of the instructional program just like a textbook.

Bring Your Own Device

Denton ISD will grant all students permission to bring a personal web-enabled device from home to campus for their academic use. Student use of personally-owned devices in the classroom setting will be at the discretion of campus administration and/or classroom teachers.

Students who use web-enabled devices from home will have access to the filtered, wireless DISD-PUB network but will not have access to any district printers or district drives such as network folders. Network drives can only be accessed via district machines.

Denton ISD is not liable for any loss or damage incurred. Denton ISD will not provide maintenance, nor can it load any software onto any personal, non-district device. Identity theft is a growing problem. We recommend that any personally sensitive files (such as tax documents, social security information, bank records, etc.) are removed from any device before it is used on campus.

Users should not loan their device to someone else. The user is responsible for any content on the device regardless of how it originated.

DISD is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen devices.

Any dispute involving Acceptable Use of district or personal resources will be settled at the discretion of District personnel.

All technological devices brought onto a Denton ISD campus are subject to search and seizure. Improper or non-educational use could result in loss of privileges for the on-campus use of such devices.

Denton ISD is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen devices.

Login Security

It is the responsibility of the student to keep their district issued network and email account safe and secure. Do not share usernames, passwords or other account information. Report any suspected unauthorized use of their account to a teacher or district official immediately. Cyber-bullying and harassment will not be tolerated. Report any suspicious or threatening communication to a teacher or other district official immediately.

Student Email

Email is a vital form of communication in the modern school, business world, and home. Denton ISD will provide all students with a monitored, filtered, school email account.

Denton ISD student email complies with the Children's Internet Protection Act through the use of active content filtering and faculty monitoring. District issued email accounts are for educational purposes only.

Failure to comply with the AUP of Denton ISD can result in restrictions being placed upon the accounts, loss of access, and possible disciplinary consequences. Parents can opt out by written request to campus administration.

Student Email Use Guidelines

Student email accounts are to be used for the following purposes only:
- Teacher-student correspondence
- Accessing/submission of classroom assignments or materials
- Creation of accounts for classroom web-based tools, such as blogs, wikis, podcasts, etc.
- Correspondence with students/partners in collaborative class activities such as pen pals

Student email accounts should not be used for:
- Unauthorized personal communication
- Bullying or harassment of other students
- Forwarding chain mail, spam or commercial content
- Sending inappropriate or immoral content or language
- Registering for any personal internet account

Email Privacy

District issued email accounts are the property of Denton ISD. All email is monitored and filtered at all times. Students should not expect their email to be private.

Social Media in the Classroom

Online communication is critical to students' learning of 21st Century Skills and tools such as blogging and podcasting offer an authentic, real-world vehicle for student expression. The use of blogs, wikis, chat rooms, podcasts or other web 2.0 tools is an extension of a classroom and school. What is inappropriate in the classroom is inappropriate online.

1. Be aware of what you post online. What you contribute leaves a digital footprint for all to see. Do not post anything you wouldn't want friends, enemies, parents, teachers, or a future employer to see.
2. Follow the Denton ISD Student Code of Conduct when writing online. It is acceptable to disagree with someone else's opinions, however, do it in a respectful way.
3. Be safe online. Never give out personal information, including, but not limited to, last names, phone numbers, addresses, exact birthdates, and pictures. Do not share your password with anyone.
4. Do your own work! Do not use other people's intellectual property without their permission.
   It is a violation of copyright law to copy and paste other's works.
5. Be aware that pictures may also be protected under copyright laws. Verify you have permission to use the image or it is under Creative Commons attribution.
6. How you represent yourself online is an extension of yourself.
7. If you run across inappropriate material, material that makes you feel uncomfortable, or is not respectful, tell your teacher or other district personnel immediately.
8. For your safety and protection we encourage you to follow these Social Media guidelines outside of school as well as during the school day.

Posting Policies

Denton ISD teachers or administrators may post the following with written parental/guardian and student approval to the principal:
- Student authored work
- Pictures, audio or video of student (alone or in a group)
- Student first and last names

Inappropriate Materials or Language

A good rule to follow is never view, send, or access materials which you would not want your teachers, parents or administrators to see. Should students encounter profane, objectionable material by accident, they should report it to their teacher or administrator immediately. Any assumed violation will be reported to the appropriate district administrator and the user's privilege revoked until the violation is reviewed by the appropriate district administrator.

General Guidelines for Using Technology

1. I understand the Denton ISD Student Code of Conduct applies to electronic interaction, just as it would in any face to face interaction. What is inappropriate in the classroom is inappropriate online.
2. I understand that **passwords are private**. I will not allow others to use my account name and password, nor will I use other account names and passwords.
3. I will be polite and use appropriate language in my electronic mail messages, multiuser role-playing and/or virtual learning environments, online postings, and other digital communications with others. I will refrain from using profanity, vulgarities, or any other inappropriate language as determined by school administrators.
4. I will use electronic mail and other means of communications such as blogs, wikis, podcasting, chat, instant-messaging, discussion boards, and virtual learning environments responsibly. I will not use computers, handheld computers, digital audio players, cell phones, personal digital devices or the Internet to send or post hate or harassing mail, pornography, make discriminatory or derogatory remarks about others, or engage in bullying, harassment, or other antisocial behaviors either at school or at home.
5. I understand that I represent the school district in all my online activities. I understand that what I do on social media websites such as MySpace and Facebook should not reflect negatively on my fellow students, teachers, or on the District.
6. I understand that masquerading, spoofing, or pretending to be someone else is forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, sending out e-mail, creating accounts, or posting messages or other online content (e.g. text, images, audio or video) in someone else's name.
7. I will use technology resources responsibly. I will not retrieve, save, or display hate-based, offensive or sexually explicit material. I am responsible for not pursuing material that could be considered offensive. I understand that I am to notify a teacher or administrator immediately if I encounter materials which violate appropriate use.
8. I will use technology resources productively and responsibly for school-related purposes.
9. I will refrain from attempting to bypass, hack, or circumvent security settings or Internet filters, or interfere with the operation of the network by installing software or web-based services.
10. I understand that vandalism is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to modifying or destroying equipment, programs, files, or settings on any computer or other technology resource.
11. I will respect the intellectual property of other users and information providers. I will obey copyright guidelines. I will not plagiarize or use other's work without proper citation and permission.
12. I will refrain from the use of or access of files, software, or other resources owned by others without the owner's permission. I will use only those school network directories that are designated for my use and for the purpose designated by my teacher.
13. I will follow all guidelines set forth by the District and/or my teachers when publishing schoolwork online such as a website, blog, wiki, discussion board, podcasting or video server.
14. I understand the Internet is a source for information that is both true and false and that the school is not responsible for inaccurate information obtained from the Internet.

15. I understand that district and/or campus administrators will deem what conduct is inappropriate use if such conduct is not specified in this agreement.
16. I agree to abide by all Internet safety guidelines that are provided by the school and to complete all assignments related to Internet safety.
17. I understand and agree that Denton ISD may access my web-enabled device at any time to determine whether there has been a violation of the AUP.
18. I understand that any reported assumed violation of the Student Acceptable Use Policy will be judged by the appropriate district administrator. I also understand that any or all of my privileges may be revoked at any time until the appropriate administrator reviews the concern or violation and makes a ruling.
19. Students should never download or install any software or applications onto network drives or disks. Any assumed violation will be reported to the appropriate district administrator and the user's privilege revoked until the concern of violation is reviewed by the appropriate district administrator.
20. I understand that any dispute involving the Acceptable Use Policy will be settled at the discretion of the school or district administrator that is responsible for student discipline. Failure to abide by Denton ISD's Acceptable Use Policy could result in suspending online privileges and district issued accounts, disciplinary and/or legal action.

Disclaimer of Liability

The district shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of electronic communication resources or violations of copyright restrictions, users' mistakes or negligence, inappropriate use of third party sites or costs incurred by user. The District shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy or usability of any information found on the Internet. The District does not warrant that the functions or services performed by, or that the information or software contained on, the system will meet the system users' requirements or the system will be uninterrupted or error-free. The district shall not be liable for lost, stolen or damaged devices brought from home.

Any dispute involving Acceptable Use of district or personal resources will be settled at the discretion of District personnel.

STUDENT AUP RESOURCE MATERIAL
APPROVED BOARD POLICY [CQ (LOCAL)]

The Superintendent or designee shall implement, monitor, and evaluate electronic media resources for instructional and administrative purposes.

Access to the District's electronic communications system, including the Internet, shall be made available to students and employees in accordance with administrative regulations. Access to the District's electronic communications system is a privilege, not a right.

All users shall be required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of all administrative regulations governing use of the system and shall agree in writing to comply with such regulations