

NORTH PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Board Policy

6167(a)

INSTRUCTION

Reference: Board Policy #6166

Elementary and Secondary

Internet

Internet Safety

Preamble

It is the policy of North Penn School District to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)]; and (e) comply with the Pennsylvania Child Internet Protection Act (Act 197 of 2004).

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) Public Law 106-554, Stat. 2763A-335. CIPA definition of terms:

Technology Protection Measure - The term "technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access to visual depictions that are:

1. Obscene; as that term is defined in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code;
2. Child Pornography; as that term is defined in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code; or
3. Harmful to minors.

Harmful to Minors - The term "harmful to minors" means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

1. Taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
2. Depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
3. Taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

Sexual Act; Sexual Contact - The terms "sexual act" and "sexual contact" have the meanings given such terms in section 2246 of title 18, United States Code.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the North Penn School District online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors. The acceptable use of the North Penn School District Computer Network shall be subject to the provisions of the School Board Policy #6166 Acceptable Use Policy.

Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the North Penn School District staff to monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act. Suspected violations should be immediately reported to the administration. Violations of this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act shall be enforced by the designated school building Administrator assigned to enforce disciplinary matters.

The Technology Department will provide any available log files or other electronic evidence to a school building Administrator in order to support the investigation of a violation.

Examples of specific violations that will be subject to enforcement measures include:

- Access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors.
- Access to inappropriate material on the Internet or World Wide Web.
- Using e-mail, chat, or other forms of electronic communication in a way that impacts the safety of minors.
- Unauthorized access/unlawful use of computers, including "hacking".
- Unauthorized disclosure of personal information of minors.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Technology Manager. [district "Websense Committee".]

Adult Usage

Adult usage of the North Penn School District online computer network shall be subject to the provisions of the Administrative Regulation 4121 - Acceptable Use Policy for Network and Internet Use by Employees [contained in the Comprehensive Employee handbook,] as well as School Board Policy #6166 - Acceptable Use Policy.

Policy

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