

Internet Safety

Introduction

Per board policies CQ (LEGAL) and CQ (LOCAL), it is the policy of Lamar Consolidated ISD to:

1. Operate a technology protection measure (internet filter) that controls students' access to inappropriate materials, as well as to materials that are harmful to minors;
2. Ensure student safety and security when using electronic communications;
3. Prevent unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful activities;
4. Restrict unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personally identifiable information regarding students;
5. Educate students about cyberbullying awareness and response as well as appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking Web sites and in chat rooms; and
6. Comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Under the Children's Internet Protection Act, the District must, as a prerequisite to receiving universal service discount rates, implement certain Internet safety measures and submit certification to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). 47 U.S.C. 254

Districts that do not receive universal service discounts but do receive certain federal funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must, as a prerequisite to receiving these funds, implement certain Internet safety measures and submit certification to the Department of Education (DOE). 20 U.S.C. 6777

Definitions

"Harmful to minors" or "inappropriate for 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.

Technology Protection Measure

The District shall operate a technology protection measure that protects minors against access to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors; and protects adults against access to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography. 47 U.S.C. 254(h)(5)(B), (C) "Technology protection measure" means a specific technology that blocks or filters Internet access. 47 U.S.C. 254(h)(7)(I)

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Lamar Consolidated ISD online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of electronic communications.

Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Lamar Consolidated ISD staff to supervise and monitor usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy and the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying of any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the Chief Technology Information Officer or designee.

Online Safety Education

As required by the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act, all Lamar Consolidated ISD students will receive instruction on appropriate online behavior and Internet safety. Topics to be covered include, but are not limited to, safety on the Internet; appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and cyberbullying awareness and response. In Lamar Consolidated ISD, this will be accomplished through a combination of campus-based activities and instruction as well as district-wide initiatives coordinated between Curriculum and Instruction and Technology Services.

Adoption

This Internet Safety Policy was presented to the Lamar Consolidated ISD Board of Trustees as part of a public meeting, following normal public notice, on July 17, 2012.