

Safe Technology Utilization and Digital Citizenship in Public Schools

SCHS Report to School Community Councils

Administration Responsibilities

• What filters are being used and how do they work?

Washington County School District Technology uses iBoss content filters for all inbound and outbound traffic. iBoss is supported and funded in part by the Utah Education Network (UEN). UEN pays for the subscription service to keep filters up to date regarding new and changed content on the internet. District Technology pays for the appliances that provide the filtering. All internet traffic coming into and out of the district is channeled through the filters. The filters consist of both software and hardware components. There are several algorithms used to filter content. At the top level a subscription to a list of inappropriate sites is maintained and all content coming from those sites is blocked and the user is notified of the filter blocking. At the second level sites that are allowed through are checked for key terms that are either inappropriate or suggest inappropriate content such as bomb making or other illegal activities. The District has purchased a pair of filters to allow for both redundancy and increased capacity..

• Are there different settings used for different grades and school levels?

At this point in time filtering is not based on grade or school levels. All content is filtered the same way for students as well as teachers and administration.

• What is district filtering policy on frequently used sites such as YouTube, Google Images, Weebly, and etc.?

Besides the iBoss filters District Technology also manages Google filtering on both YouTube and Google Images. Google filters for both have gone through some significant changes in the last year and have become much more restrictive. We are able to allow teachers to manage content permissions on YouTube. Other content for popular sites is filtered through standard iBoss filtering protocols.

• Are there management systems available (MDM, Chrome management, LanSchool, and etc.) that can add additional control and who accesses those systems?

Schools are requested to purchase management with all Chromebooks. Chromebook management is a tiered management system with the highest level managing all Chromebooks, and then school and teacher levels of management to manage what applications are available and user access. The District owns a LanSchool license that can be used on almost any device and is available to all schools. iOS management is slowly evolving. We are hoping that by the end of the school year we have a full district level management system in place for iOS devices. At this point in time iOS management is taken care of at the school level.

• What resources does the district provide concerning educating students on safe internet use and digital citizenship?

At the elementary school level all lab aides are provided with and taught how to use and teach online internet safety, security and privacy. District Technology provides the elementary lab aids with numerous resources for this purpose. The lab aides also meet once a month and discuss changes and any new issues dealing with internet safety and security.

District Technology has not been able to successfully develop a program for secondary schools because each school and set of grade levels do not permit us to set training up in any kind of consistent format. It is District Technology's recommendation that each school go through the content at commonsensemedia.org and establish a digital safety, citizenship, privacy and security program. There is a professional development piece for teachers as well as instruction for students.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/educators/scope-and-sequence>

District Technology has developed and provided a set of guidelines/policy for schools that choose to support BYOD (Bring Your Own Device). The guidelines provide an adequate amount of information with regards to how BYOD should be implemented. It is strongly recommended that secondary schools implement the BYOD guidelines because students are going to be bringing devices to school even if the policy is not implemented. Information for BYOD can be found at this link: [District Technology BYOD Documents](#)

• What is the protocol in district schools when inappropriate content is accessed for students, employees and parents?

Policy governing student, and staff use of District technology resources is covered in [District Policy 3700](#). Consequences for inappropriate use are covered in this policy. Misuse of resources that violate either state or federal laws must be reported to the appropriate district administration. In the case of employees, law

violations must reported to Human Resources. Otherwise it is up to the school administration to determine what discipline measures should be taken.

- [Explanation of district capabilities or inability to change filtering, settings and management tools based on best practices, technological limitations, and funding. Where applicable, districts could include what is provided in connection with e-rate funding.](#)

HB 213 was put into law without any additional funding to support the mandates of the law. A much more sophisticated level of filtering could take place; however, a reallocation or additional manpower would be necessary to accomplish this task. E-rate funding requires that all internet access is monitored, and it is assumed that filtering meets the requirement of the regulation. It is important to recognize that filtering is only part of the monitoring solution. District Policy 3700 states that all devices connected to the internet that are being used by students on school property must be physically monitored by the teacher or adult responsible for the students when they are using the devices.

Other programs can be purchased such as NearPod that allow teachers to put students into a managed environment, but nothing besides LanSchool has been purchased at the district level for this purpose.

Schools should add to the district report (at a minimum):

- [What devices are being used and how are classes using them?](#)

Snow Canyon Middle School students have access to Kindles, tablets, Chromebooks, Apple OS 10 computers, and Windows computers. These devices are used for Alex, Utah Compose, Word Processing, research, testing, class presentations by both students and faculty, and Fine Art projects.

- [What supervision practices are in place when students are online?](#)

There must be a teacher or part-time aide supervising students whenever they have access to a device that have internet access. Computer Labs are also monitored with the LanSchool program at all times.

- [Are there management tools used that allow teachers to digitally monitor student use or limit access to some applications or sites?](#)

Yes, LanSchool is used in the computer labs at Snow Canyon Middle School.

- [What are the school rules when inappropriate information appears for students, staff and parents? Are there safe reporting procedures for students, staff, and parents so that reporting is safe and encouraged, when it happens?](#)

When a student accesses inappropriate information there are a number of steps that will be taken. First, a message is sent to the student's screen asking them to stop and come talk to a staff member. Next, the student's login account is locked. If the student leaves without talking to a staff member then he/she will be called out of class to speak to Mr. Harrah in the main office. If the inappropriate information is severe enough Mr. Harrah and Mr. Bench will speak to the student and their parents to discuss the appropriate action which could include suspension or expulsion from school.

When a staff member views inappropriate information on a school computer The District Human Resource Director is contacted and an investigation will be started into the employee's computer usage. Appropriate action will be taken including termination and/or arrest if warranted.

If a parent is found viewing inappropriate information on a school computer the school resource officer will be call to escort them off campus. If warranted they will be arrested.

- [How does the school balance access and safety appropriate for the grade levels at your school?](#)

Currently all grades are filtered at the same level. This is controlled at a District level.

- [What are the policies in place for devices brought from home – tablets, cell phones, etc.?](#)

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