

MARION SCHOOL DISTRICT 60-3 INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

I. Introduction:

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), 47 U.S.C. §254(h)(5), and South Dakota Consolidated Statutes Section 22-24-55 require public schools to implement certain measures and actions to ensure that students are restricted from accessing inappropriate materials online using school owned computers. This policy is adopted to implement these state and federal requirements. This policy governs the use of school owned computers and computers that use the Marion School Internet access service via the school network. This includes Internet access by students, administrators and members of the public that may use the Internet in the school library when the library is open to members of the public.

II. Internet Safety:

It is the policy of the Marion School District to protect computer users from harassment and unwanted or unsolicited electronic communications. Any network user who receives threatening or unwelcomed electronic communications or inadvertently visits or accesses an inappropriate site shall report such immediately to a teacher or administrator.

A. The Marion School District has implemented a technology protection measure that blocks access to inappropriate matter such as child pornography, obscene material and material that is harmful to minors.

B. In order to protect the safety and security of our students, network users are prohibited from revealing personal information to other users when engaging in online activities including but not limited to chat rooms, email, and social networking web sites. Personal information such as complete names, addresses, telephone numbers, and identifiable photos should remain confidential when communicating on the network.

C. All network users are prohibited from hacking and engaging in any unlawful online activity. All use of the system must be in support of education and research and consistent with the mission of the district. Any use of the system must be in conformity to state and federal law, and the District Acceptable Use Policy.

D. All network users are prohibited from disclosing or disseminating personal information without proper authorization regarding minors. Staff transmissions of student's confidential information via-email must be in compliance with all federal and state student privacy laws.

E. All network users are prohibited from accessing sites or online materials that are blocked by the filter on/off campus. The filter is applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful or inappropriate for minors and the educational setting.

III. Implementation of Technology Protection Measure:

A. All school owned computers must be equipped with a technology protection measure.

B. Staff members may request the Technology Protection Measure be temporarily disabled in order to conduct bona fide research or for another lawful purpose. The Technology Protection Measure must be re-activated as soon as the staff member finishes using the computer for the authorized bona fide research or other lawful purpose. Procedures for modifying any of the filtering on the software shall be the responsibility of the Technology Coordinator or designated representatives based on educational importance.

IV. Acceptable Use Policy:

Each network user shall be required to sign an Acceptable Use Policy annually in the form approved by the School Board. The Acceptable Use Policy shall implement this Internet Safety Policy. Violation of this policy and/or the Acceptable Use Policy shall be subject to appropriate discipline sanctions.

V. Monitoring of Online Activities:

It shall be the responsibility of all personnel of the Marion School District to monitor students' online activities and use of the network to ensure that their use is in compliance with CIPA and this Internet Safety Policy. Students' use of the system will be supervised by staff in a manner that is appropriate to the age of the students and circumstances of use.

VI. Cyberbullying and Appropriate Online Education:

Students will be educated annually about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response. The implementation of this provision is delegated to the Superintendent who shall report annually to the School Board on the educational activities undertaken to comply with this subsection.