

INTERNET SAFETY POLICY and RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP IN A DIGITAL WORLD

It is the policy of the Waltham Public Schools to:

- Prevent user access over its computer/data networks to inappropriate material via the Internet, electronic mail (e-mail), or other forms of direct electronic communications;
- Prevent unauthorized access, including so-called “hacking” and other unlawful online activities;
- Prevent unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal identification information of minors;
- Provide measures restricting minors’ access to materials deemed harmful to them;
- And comply with the Children’s Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)]

Internet Safety protective measures in place for all students and staff, over the computer/data networks include:

- Web filters, e-mail filter and firewall measures are in place for all users.
- E-mail accounts for all staff and students (grades 6-12) are provided and access to other e-mail services is blocked.
- Individual login accounts for all staff and students (grades 3-12) are provided to log into the computer/data network.
- Shared login accounts for students (grades K-2) have additional restrictions in accessing material via the Internet
- The Waltham Public Schools’ Web Publishing Guidelines state that student’s personal information, such as full name, home address, e-mail address, personal web address or telephone/cell number may not be published on public websites.
- Waltham Public Schools’ Digital Acceptable Use Agreement for all students and staff is published at <http://www.walthampublicschools.org/aua.cfm>

Education Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Waltham Public Schools’ staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online networks and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, and the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA). The Waltham Public Schools’ staff should always model safe behavior and take advantage of “teachable moments”.

Beginning 2012, the Waltham Public Schools will provide all students with yearly Internet Safety training that includes Responsible Citizenship in a Digital World. The curriculum is posted at <http://internetsafetywps.wikispaces.com/>.

The training is designed to promote the Waltham Public Schools’ commitment to:

- The standards and acceptable use of the Internet services as set forth in the Waltham Public Schools’ Internet Safety Policy and Digital Acceptable Use Agreement.
- Student safety with regard to:
 - safety on the Internet;
 - appropriate behavior while online, on social networking web sites, and in chat rooms;
 - and cyber bullying awareness and response.
- Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

Children’s Internet Protection Act. Federal Communications Commission,
<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>

Adopted: June 2012