

**IRWIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CIPA-COMPLIANT INTERNET SAFETY POLICY**

I. Introduction

The Irwin County School District adopted this revised CIPA-Compliant Internet Safety Policy (hereinafter referred to as *Internet Safety Policy*) at its regular board meeting on May 8, 2006 after providing public notice via the local newspaper on March 1, 2006 and holding a public meeting on March 6, 2006 to discuss this Internet Safety Policy.

The adopted Internet safety policy for minors includes the operation of a technology protection measure with respect to any of its computers with Internet access that protects against access through such computers to visual depictions that are (1) obscene; (2) child pornography; or (3) harmful to minors. This Internet safety policy includes the monitoring of online activities of minors, and the district enforces the operation of such technology protection measures during any use of such computers by minors.

It is the intent of this policy 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; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

II. Technology Protection Measures

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

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

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet access to inappropriate information, to promote the safety and security of users of the Irwin County School District's online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications. Specifically, 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.

III. Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Irwin County School District's 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 any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of the district's technology director or designated representatives.

IV. CIPA Definition of Terms

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act:

- Computer - The term *computer* includes any hardware, software, or other technology attached or connected to, installed in, or otherwise used in connection with a computer.
- Access To Internet - A computer shall be considered to have access to the Internet if such computer is equipped with a modem or is connected to a computer network which has access to the Internet.

- 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.
- Minor - The term *minor* means an individual who has not attained the age of 17.
- Child Pornography-- The term *child pornography* has the meaning given such term in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code.
- 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.
- Obscene - The term *obscene* has the meaning given such term in section 1460 of title 18, United States Code.
- 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.

V. Adoption

Following normal public notice in the local newspaper on March 1, 2006, this Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Irwin County Board of Education at its regular monthly board meeting on May 8, 2006. The district will continue to evaluate whether or not currently available technology protection measures, including commercial Internet blocking and filtering software, adequately addresses the needs of the school district and will certify its compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].