

INTERNET APPROPRIATE USE POLICY

I have read the Yazoo City Municipal School District **Internet Safety and Appropriate Use Agreement**. I understand and will abide by the terms and conditions as stated. I understand that some Internet violations are unethical and may constitute a criminal offense resulting in legal action. I understand that access to the internet will be supervised by Yazoo City Municipal School District personnel and that provisions of the agreement will be reviewed with students. I further understand that the Yazoo City Municipal School District is not responsible for the actions of individual users or the information they may access.

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Yazoo City Municipal School District IFBED

**Internet Appropriate Use Policy:
Internet Safety Policy Revised:**

**April 18, 2002
June 14, 2012**

The Yazoo City Municipal School District is pleased to offer to its students, faculty, and staff access to the Internet in accordance with the terms and conditions of this policy. The Internet is an electronic highway connecting hundreds of thousands of computers and millions of individual users globally. This computer technology will help propel our schools through the communication age by allowing students and staff to access and to use resources from distant computers, communicate and collaborate with other individuals and groups, and significantly expand their available information base.

Overview

Internet access is coordinated through a complex association of government agencies and regional state networks. In addition, the smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the users who must adhere to strict guidelines. To this end, Congress has passed and President signed into law, the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). CIPA requires that schools receiving certain federal funds, including E-Rate discounts and Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, put into place Internet safety policies.

Introduction

It is the policy of Yazoo City Municipal School District 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 [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions

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

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, 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 for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Recognizing that no filtering solution can be 100% effective, it is understood that all technology protection measures do not and will not work perfectly. In complying with CIPA, schools are expected to engage in a "good faith effort" to abide by the requirements of CIPA. CIPA does not create a private right to action, meaning that the discovery of objectionable material on a computer cannot result in a lawsuit complaining that a school violated CIPA.

Inappropriate Network Usage

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

Specifically, 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.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Yazoo City Municipal School District's staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of The Technology Director or designated representatives. The Yazoo City Municipal School District or designated representatives will provide age-appropriate training for students who use the Yazoo City Municipal School District Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote the Yazoo City Municipal School District's c

- I. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Yazoo City Municipal S *Internet Appropriate Use Policy Page*
- II. Student safety with regard to:
 - a. safety on the Internet;
 - b. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - c. cyberbullying awareness and response.
- III. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies.

Yazoo City Municipal School District Internet Terms and Conditions of Use

These guidelines are provided so that you, the user and/or parent of the user, are aware of the responsibilities you are about to assume. In general, this requires efficient, ethical, and legal utilization of the network resources. If a Yazoo City Municipal School District user violates any of these provisions, his or her account will be terminated and future access could possibly be denied.

The signature(s) on this document is (are) legally binding and indicates the party (parties) who signed has (have) read the terms and conditions carefully and understand(s) their significance.

Personal Safety

1. User will not disclose, use, disseminate or divulge personal and/or private information about himself/herself, minors or any others including personal identification information such as, but not limited to, credit card information, social security numbers, telephone numbers, addresses,
2. User will immediately report to Yazoo City Municipal School District authorities any attempt by other Internet users to engage in inappropriate conversations or personal contact.

Illegal Activity

1. User agrees not to access, transmit or retransmit any material(s) in furtherance of any illegal act or conspiracy to commit any illegal act in violation of United States, Mississippi, local government, or Yazoo City Municipal School District laws, policies or regulations.
2. User shall not access, transmit, or retransmit: copyrighted materials (including plagiarism), threatening, harassing, or obscene material, pornographic material, or material protected by trade secret, and/or any other material that is inappropriate to minors.
3. User shall not access, transmit, or retransmit any material that promotes violence or the destruction of persons or property by devices including, but not limited to, the use of firearms, explosives, fireworks, smoke bombs, incendiary devices, or other similar materials.
4. User shall not use the network for any illegal activity including, but not limited to, unauthorized access including hacking.
5. User shall not access, transmit, or retransmit language that may be considered offensive, defamatory, or abusive.
6. User shall not access, transmit or retransmit information that could cause danger or disruption or engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
7. User shall not access, transmit or retransmit information that harasses another person or causes distress to another person (Cyberbullying).

System Resource Limits

1. User shall only use the Yazoo City Municipal School District system for educational and career development activities and limited, high quality self-discovery activities as approved by Yazoo City Municipal School District faculty.
2. User agrees not to download large files unless it is absolutely necessary. If absolutely necessary to download large files, user agrees to download the file at a time when the system is not being heavily used.
3. User agrees not to post chain letters or engage in "spamming" (that is, sending an annoying or unnecessary message to large numbers of people).
4. User agrees to immediately notify his/her teacher or other school administrator should user access inappropriate information. This will assist protecting user against a claim of intentional violation of this policy.

User Rights

1. The Internet is considered a limited forum, similar to a school newspaper, and therefore the Yazoo City Municipal School District may restrict user's right to free speech for valid educational reasons. Yazoo City Municipal School District will not restrict user's right to free speech on the basis of disagreement with the opinions expressed by user.
2. User shall have the responsibility to use computer resources for academic purposes only. Therefore, as mandated by CIPA, filtering will be utilized on all computers accessing the Internet. The only exception will be for academic research by a staff member with the approval of school administration.
3. User should not expect files stored on school-based computer to remain private. Authorized staff will periodically inspect folders and logs of network usage will be kept at all times. Routine review and maintenance of the system may indicate that user has violated this policy, school codes, municipal law, state law or federal law. Parents of minor users shall have the right to inspect the contents of user's files.
4. Yazoo City School Municipal District will fully cooperate with local, state or federal officials in any investigation related to illegal activities conducted through the user's Internet account.

Individual schools within the district may create additional guidelines and procedures consistent with this policy. Such guidelines and procedures will be appropriate for the electronic information resources being used and the students served at the school. Use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of those privileges. The principal or his designee may deny, revoke, or suspend user privileges to any user determined to be using the system in an inappropriate manner. The decision of the principal will be final.

Consequences for Failure to Follow Terms and Conditions of Internet Use Policy

There will be consequences for any user who fails to follow Yazoo City Municipal School District school guidelines and policies. The consequences may include paying for damages, denial of access to technology, detention, suspension, expulsion or other remedies applicable under the school disciplinary policy, and state or federal law. At the discretion of Yazoo City Municipal School District, law enforcement authorities may be involved and any violations of state and or federal law may result in criminal or civil prosecution.

Adoption

This Internet Appropriate Use/Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Yazoo City Municipal School District at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on June 14, 2012.