



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TOPIC: Public Hearing on Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Information on the district's technology protection measure and Internet safety policy.

SUBMITTED BY: Hector J. Perez **OF:** Dept. of Information Technology

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: _____

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) was signed into law on December 21, 2000. The effective date of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) began with E-rate funding year 4. A school, school board, local education agency, or other authority with the responsibility for administration of the school, shall provide reasonable public notice and hold at least one public hearing or meeting to address a proposed Internet safety policy.

PUBLIC HEARING – Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 254 (h)(5)(A), (l)(1), the District shall hold a public hearing to address the District's Internet Safety Policy in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, otherwise known as "CIPA"

The school district has an Internet safety policy that addresses the following areas:

- Access by minors to inappropriate material on the Internet
- The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications
- Unauthorized access including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online
- Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors
- Measures designed to restrict minors' access to materials harmful to minors
- Educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyber bullying awareness and response.

The school district uses IBoss Enterprise Web/Internet access filter as a protection measure to shelter against access by adults and minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or with respect to use of computers with Internet access by minors – harmful to minors.



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As per the FCC Report and Order on the Children's Internet Protection Act (CC Docket No. 96-45) adopted on March 30, 2001 and released on April 5, 2001, in order to receive discounts for Internet access and internal connections services under the universal service support mechanism (E-rate), school and library authorities must certify several items. Following is a list of items and the United ISD response to each item.

1. They are enforcing a policy of Internet safety that includes measures to block or filter Internet access for both minors and adults.

United ISD uses the IBoss Enterprise Web/Internet filter, an Internet filtering application which blocks and filters access to inappropriate Internet sites. United ISD personnel in the Office of Information Technology are authorized to disable United ISD's technology protection measure (Filter and Firewall) to allow bona fide research or other lawful use by an adult.

2. The policy of Internet safety includes monitoring the online activities of minors;

United ISD's staff in the Office of Technology will be monitoring the online activities of minors. The Internet filter software can produce reports on student and staff online activities. Any reports that are requested must be approved by the Superintendent or designee.

3. They have adopted and implemented an Internet safety policy addressing (i) access by minors to inappropriate material on the Internet;

United ISD has adopted policy CQ (Local) on Technology Resources which governs the use of electronic media resources for instructional and administrative purposes for United ISD students and staff.

4. (ii) the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications;

United ISD offers students and staff electronic mail accounts using the e-chalk software. United ISD has implemented electronic communications procedures and administrative guidelines that address the use of electronic mail and other forms of direct electronic communications. Parents must complete the parent permission form and student agreement (District form number 880-005) in order for any student to have access to United ISD's computer networks.

(iii) unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking", and other unlawful activities by minors online;

United ISD Technology staff continuously monitors the network and uses a firewall and filtering options, to the extent possible, to try to minimize the potential for unlawful activities online.



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(iv) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors;

The United ISD departments that handle student data (such as Information Technology and PEIMS) are aware of the laws governing this information. Staff follows the Family Educational Right Privacy Act (FERPA) laws.

(v) measures designed to restrict minor's access to materials harmful to minors;

The IBoss Enterprise Web/Internet filter will restrict minor's access, to the extent possible, to material harmful to minors.

5. That they have the policies and technology measures in place, or that they are undertaking such actions, including any necessary procurement procedures, to put them in place for the following funding year by July 1st 2012;

United ISD has the policies and technology measures in place to meet the Children Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requirements.

6. That this information will be certified on FCC Form 486

United ISD will choose the following certification option on FCC Form 486:

The recipient(s) of service represented in the Funding Request Number(s) on this form 486 has (have) complied with the requirements of the children's Internet Protection Act, as codified at 47 U.S.C. 254(h) and (1)

7. That the School District Internet Safety Policies have been updated to provide for educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyber bullying awareness and response.

United ISD has included on its Internet Safety Policy the education of minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyber bullying awareness and response.

United ISD staff has developed 5 electronic modules that are accessible via the district's website and include the following:

- Online Safety Behavior
- Digital Etiquette and Chat Rooms
- Cyber Bullying
- Social Networking
- Blogs
- Information Privacy