

## **Internet Filtering Policy**

### **Introduction**

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the District's Responsible Use of Technology Policy, the Chariho Regional School District is required to have in place a filtering device on all computers with Internet access. The filter should protect minors from access to visual depictions that are obscene or constitute child pornography, or that are harmful to minors, as defined in CIPA.

Harmful to minors, means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that--

- a. taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
- b. 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
- c. taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

### **Oversight**

The Chariho Regional School District shall establish an oversight committee, which shall include but not be limited to the Assistant Superintendent, Director of Educational Technology and Information Systems, Technology Academic Fellow, teacher, parent, student, and building administrator. The oversight committee shall monitor implementation of and make recommendations for adjustments to this policy.

### **Requests to Block or Unblock a Website**

The Director of Educational Technology and Information Systems shall establish a system whereby requests to block or unblock a website may be made according to the following criteria:

- a. Educational purposes – there is educational material being blocked by the filtering system or there is non-educational material interfering with the educational process. Principles of academic freedom shall be considered in deciding what categories to filter.
- b. Staff related purposes – a website is needed that is related to their position (i.e., purchasing, law enforcement, bona fide research).
- c. CIPA - See definition in Introduction.

The Director of Educational Technology and Information Systems shall maintain records related to requests to block or unblock a website. Additionally, the Director shall annually

review these records, report same to the oversight committee, and provide an annual summary of the number of requests to block or unblock a website to the School Committee.

Decisions of the Director may be appealed in accord with the Appeals Policy.

**Website Categories that Will be Blocked**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>REASON</b>
Ads	Infrastructure and Device Security
Adult Content	CIPA
Alcohol & Tobacco	CIPA
Dating & Personals	CIPA
Drugs	CIPA
Friendship & Social Networking	CIPA
Gambling	CIPA
Guns & Weapons	CIPA
Malware	Infrastructure and Device Security
Pornography	CIPA
Sexual Education	CIPA
Swimsuit & Lingerie	CIPA
Violence & Hate	CIPA
Web Proxies	Infrastructure and Device Security

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