

Internet Safety Policy (approved 8/20/18)

At Pioneer Springs Community School, the Internet provided will be used to advance and promote education, for research, or other educational and communication purposes.

Access to inappropriate material

Pioneer Springs Community School takes reasonable efforts to block access to inappropriate material found on the Internet using software filtering techniques. The technology used to filter internet content shall be compliant with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) enacted by Congress in December, 2000, and will specifically protect 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.

In addition, the PSCS Board of Trustees holds that visual or audio depictions of violence, nudity, or offensive language not serving an educational purpose are not appropriate for minors. Computer users are prohibited from using the Internet to locate, view, use, or disseminate material considered violent or promoting violence, pornographic or otherwise inappropriate, either at school or at home using school-owned equipment. PSCS Directors will be responsible for determining what material is appropriate for minors.

Users also agree not to use the Internet in any way that would conflict with other Pioneer Springs Community School policies. Transmission of any material in violation of any US or state regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: material that has a copyright, threatening, harassing, obscene material, or pornographic material.

CIPA uses the federal criminal definitions for obscenity and child pornography. The term "harmful to minors" is defined as "any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that – (i) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion; (ii) 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 (iii) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors."

Inappropriate network usage

Users of PSCS network resources are prohibited from trying to gain unauthorized access including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online, and from the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors.

Monitoring and Education

The online activities of students are monitored by staff or other designated adult, and PSCS takes reasonable measures to promote the safety and security of users of its network, especially that of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Age-appropriate measures will be taken to educate minors using the school's online network about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, cyberbullying awareness, and response.