

Claymont City Schools

Internet Filtering Policy

(Appendix C)

It is intended that internet access will improve the processes of teaching and learning as well as facilitate improvements in communication between all members of the learning community, especially between parents and teachers. The *Claymont City School District* seeks to establish a secure, appropriate virtual learning space that will be available during and after regular school hours.

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) was signed into law on December 21, 2000. Under CIPA, no school or library may receive discounts unless it certifies that it is enforcing a policy of internet safety that includes the use of filtering or blocking technology (see below). This Internet Safety Policy must protect against access, through devices with internet access, to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography or (in the case of use by minors) harmful to minors. The school or library must also certify that it is enforcing the operation of such filtering or blocking technology during any use of such computers by minors.

General Principles:

1. The district shall implement internet filtering software in an attempt to block user access to inappropriate and/or harmful material on the internet. Objectionable content is pre-determined by the district.
2. When the software finds any such objectionable content, it shall deny the user access to the site based on the level of access granted to the user by the district.
3. Filtering technology is not perfect and therefore, may interfere with legitimate educational research. In the event that the filtering software is unsuccessful and children gain access to inappropriate and/or harmful material, the district will not be liable.
4. While school staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise the use of technology including the network and internet, it is impossible to supervise at all times. The *Claymont City School District* has taken available precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and users may discover controversial information.

Filtering

- Securely Web Filter shall be used to filter web access by all users and monitor all internet use.

Default filtering levels

The default level of access that will be granted to users varies depending on whether they are a student or staff member. Sites are grouped into categories and block or allowed as documented. Additional specific sites may be blocked or allowed at the discretion of the administrative staff.