

[ **X** ] **Required**  
 [     ] **Local**  
 [     ] **Notice**

### **INTERNET SAFETY**

The Board of Education is committed to undertaking efforts that serve to make safe for children the use of BOCES computers for access to the Internet and World Wide Web. To this end, although unable to guarantee that any selected filtering and blocking technology will work perfectly, the Board directs the District Superintendent or his or her designee, to procure and implement the use of technology protection measures that block or filter Internet access by:

- adults to visual depictions that are obscene or child pornography, and
- minors to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors, as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Subject to staff supervision, however, any such measures may be disabled or relaxed for adults conducting bona fide research or other lawful purposes, in accordance with criteria established by the District Superintendent or his or her designee, which are not in contravention of the law

The District Superintendent or his or her designee also shall develop and implement procedures that provide for the safety and security of students using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications; monitoring the online activities of students using BOCES computers; and restricting student access to materials that are harmful to minors.

In addition, the Board prohibits the use of BOCES owned devices or personal devices to access a non-BOCES communication network for unauthorized disclosure, use and dissemination of personal information regarding students; unauthorized online access by students, including hacking and other unlawful activities; and access by students to inappropriate matter on the Internet and World Wide Web. In addition, the Board prohibits the sharing of inappropriate media content from personal devices, which may exist on a person's personal device while on the BOCES premises. The District Superintendent or his or her designee shall establish and implement procedures that enforce these restrictions.

The District Superintendent or his or her designee shall monitor and examine all BOCES computer network activities to ensure compliance with this policy and accompanying regulation. He or she also shall be responsible for ensuring that staff and students receive training on these requirements.

All users of the BOCES communications network and the Internet must understand that use is a privilege, not a right, and that any such use entails responsibility. They must comply with the requirements of this policy and accompanying regulation, in addition to generally accepted rules of network etiquette, and the BOCES policy on the acceptable use of computers and the internet (policy 4526). Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, the revocation of computer access privileges.

As part of this policy, and the BOCES policy on acceptable use of BOCES computers (Policy 4526), the BOCES shall also provide age-appropriate instruction regarding appropriate online behavior, including:

1. interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and in chat rooms, and
2. cyberbullying awareness and response.

Instruction will be provided even if the BOCES prohibits students from accessing social networking sites or chat rooms on BOCES computers.

Cross-ref: 4526, Computer Use in Instruction, Code of Conduct

Ref: Children's Internet Protection Act, Public Law No. 106-554  
Broadband Data Services Improvement Act/ Protecting Children in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act, Public Law No. 110-385  
47 USC §254  
20 USC §6777

Adoption date: February 11, 2010  
Amended: December 17, 2015