

## USE OF COMPUTERS AND NETWORKS

Access to the internet is available to ~~students~~ **learners** and teachers of the school district **to use for educational and administrative purposes**. ~~Online resources will allow classroom projects such as pen-pal discussions, scientific data collection, and international cultural exchanges. The internet enables worldwide connection to electronic mail, discussion groups, databases, computer software and informational sources such as libraries and museums.~~ The goal of the district through online resources is to promote educational **excellence teaching and learning** by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication within our own community, our nation and worldwide. **The use of all technology resources is a privilege, not a right.**

With the access of online resources comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. **The district shall make every effort to restrict access by adults and minors to inappropriate materials, yet it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information. The district will maintain a technology protection measure by way of web content filters or blocks to limit minors' ability to access obscene matter or materials on the Internet when using the District's network or device.** ~~On a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information. However, it is the district's belief that the valuable information and interaction on these networks far outweigh the possibility that a user may locate material that is not consistent with the educational goals of the district.~~

For the purposes of this policy, obscene matter or materials is defined as material:

- The dominant theme of which, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest, which is shameful or morbid interest in nudity, sex, or excretion, which goes substantially beyond customary limits of candor in description or representation of such matters; and
- Patently offensive because it affronts contemporary community standards relating to the description or representation of sado-masochistic abuse or sexual conduct; and
- Lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

Internet users, like traditional library users, are responsible for their actions in accessing online resources. ~~Before faculty, staff, students or parents have access to the Internet, they must complete a mandatory workshop. The intention of the workshop is to educate users on proper Internet conduct.~~

The administration will formulate the necessary regulations to carry out the policy of acceptable Internet use and the consequences if violations occur. **The regulations shall insure proper use of district networks and the Internet by students, staff members, and members of the community.**

This policy will be published on the district's website and/or annually published in the district's designated newspaper.

**Legal References:**                    **[SDCL 22-24-27](#) (Use and public indecency - definition of terms)**  
   **[SDCL 22-24-55](#) (Restrict access to obscene materials)**

**1st Reading:**                    **07/15/2013**  
**2nd Reading:**                **08/12/2013**  
**Notification:**                **07/15/2024**  
**1st Reading:**                    **08/12/2024**