

**PARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY**

**Code: IJNDA**

**COMPUTER-ASSISTED INSTRUCTION  
Internet Safety**

Staff and students are encouraged to utilize the computer network provided by the School District for the purpose of facilitating learning and providing the best educational experience possible for district students. The district has made available to students and staff, electronic mail and the Internet. To gain access to E-mail and the Internet, all students under the age of eighteen (18) must obtain a signed district parental permission slip and return it to the authorized staff member. Students eighteen (18) and over may sign and return their own permission slips.

Access to E-mail and the Internet will enable students to explore libraries, databases and bulletin boards and exchange messages with Internet users worldwide. Families should be warned that some material, accessible via the Internet, contains items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or offensive. While it is possible for students to access inappropriate material and otherwise misuse the system, it is the intent of the School District that Internet access should only be used to further the educational goals and established educational objectives. To utilize this technology appropriately and effectively, it will be the responsibility of parents and guardians of minors to set responsible standards for their children. To that end, the School District will support and respect each family's right to decide whether or not to apply for access.

**DISTRICT INTERNET AND E-MAIL RULES**

Students are responsible for good behavior on school computers and district networks just as they are in the classroom or a school hallway. Communicating on the network is often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communications apply.

Though not invulnerable to tampering, district Internet filters are used to block access to obscenity, child pornography, and other materials harmful to minors. Disciplinary action shall be taken against any student who tampers with the district filters. District Internet filters may only be disabled for bona fide research or other lawful purposes, and may only be disabled by the Chief Technology Officer of the district.

**INTERNET SAFETY TRAINING**

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), all District students will annually receive Internet safety training, which will educate students about appropriate online behavior, interacting with other individuals on social networking sites and chat rooms, cyber bullying awareness, and response to such behaviors.

The district network is provided for students to conduct research and communication. Access to district network services is provided to students who agree to act in a responsible manner and in accordance with school rules and procedures. Parental permission for access to the district network is required. Access to the district network is a privilege; it is not a right. District network users must comply with district expectations for use of the district network and must honor the agreements they have signed.

Network storage areas belong to the district. They are not private or personal property of students or staff. They are learning areas for information storage areas and they are subject to review and oversight by authorized district staff at any time.

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While teachers of younger school age students will generally guide students toward appropriate educational material, older students utilizing district devices and district networks outside of regular school hours require effective supervision. Supervision of students in the appropriate use of district devices and the district network falls to the responsibility of parent(s) or guardians.

**SUPERVISION AND MONITORING**

It shall be the responsibility of all district employees to supervise students and monitor online computer network use and Internet access in accordance with this policy and the Children’s Internet Protection Act. Procedures for disabling, filtering or modifying of any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of authorized district technology personnel.

**ACCESS TO A BLOCKED SITE(S)**

1. Staff or students seeking access to a blocked site must enter <http://park6.org>, select the Technology Page and complete the form labeled “Blocked Website Review Form.” When completed the Chief Technology Officer will review the request and according to district protocol, will determine access will be granted.
2. Requests for access by students or staff shall be granted or denied within three (3) school days.
3. Appeal of the decision to deny access to a web site may be made in writing to the superintendent of schools stating the web site or web content that staff or students would like access to and providing a detailed explanation of why they should be allowed to access the site. The superintendent or his/her designee shall make a determination to allow or deny access to the site in not less than three calendar days. The decision of the superintendent/designee is final and may not be further appealed.
4. Material subject to the complaint will not be unblocked pending this review process.

In the event that a District student or employee believes there is an accessible web content or a web site that is not appropriate in a school setting, i.e., obscene, pornographic, or “harmful to minors” as defined by CIPA or material that is otherwise in appropriate for district students to view, the staff member or student must report such concern. Go to <http://park6.org>, choose the Technology Page and fill out the form labeled “Open Website for Review Form.” Fill out and send the form. The Chief Technology Officer or other district administrators shall determine whether the content is acceptable or unacceptable.

**PENALTY**

Violations will result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action. The first offense will generally result in a warning and loss of computer privileges/Internet access until a parent conference, and further loss of privilege for such time as is determined by the administration. A second offense or a first offense of a flagrant nature, such as using the system for illegal behavior or intentionally damaging school district hardware or software, may result in removal from a class, termination of computer/network privileges, or recommendations for suspension and/or expulsion.

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