

PISD Internet Use Policy

The Internet is a source of instructional material to which students and staff members have access both in and outside of schools. The Internet provides access to curricular and other educational material, and experience in searching for, finding, evaluating, and using information delivered electronically. The Internet can be accessed through an increasing variety of electronic devices including those beyond what is provided by the school district. Resources and the material available on the Internet vary in quality and appropriateness for school instructional purposes. Materials entering a school via Internet sources and resources may have not been selected ahead of time in a manner similar to the way other instructional material is selected, such as textbooks, software, or library books.

Internet safety issues also arise around the access to and use of the Internet, Internet-ready, and other electronic devices in a manner that promotes safe, civil, and legal online activity for children, digital citizenship and literacy, and recognizing and responding to cyberbullying. Issues of protecting children from scams, cyber crimes, including crimes by online predators also arise. To allow students and staff access to instructional material from the Internet, to help prevent access to material which is deemed appropriate for classroom use, and to promote safe and appropriate online behavior, the following four-part approach is instituted whenever a student or staff member is accessing Internet material from a district facility

1. Network Use Agreement

Any student or staff member using the Internet from a computer in a Poolville ISD facility must have a valid Responsible Use agreement on file.

2. Filter

All district-owned computers in all district facilities which are capable of accessing the Internet must use filtering software to prevent access to illegal, obscene, racist, hateful, or violent material.

3. Supervision

When students use the Internet from school facilities, District employees will make a reasonable effort to supervise student access and use of the Internet. If material is accessed that violates standards in the materials selection procedures or the Network Use Agreement/Responsible Use Agreement, the District staff member may instruct the person to cease using that material, and/or implement sanctions contained in the Network Use Agreement.

4. Instruction

All students will be educated about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.