

# Rich Township High School District #227



**TO:** All Staff  
**FROM:** Ted Koutavas  
**RE:** Internet Filtering

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Due to the recent upgrades in our content filtering software you might have noticed that some Internet sites and features are no longer available. A filtering solution is only as good as the list of web sites that underlies it. We use an industry leader in providing detection and categorization of web sites. Collected sites are categorized and added to the database around the clock.

Utilizing this methodology the database consists of 80 categories containing millions of Web sites. Due to the number of sites created every day no filter can be 100% accurate, please e-mail me if you identify a site that needs to be blocked or if you feel a site is blocked when it shouldn't be.

If you feel a site needs to be unblocked it must meet the following guidelines according to the Board approved acceptable use policy that states:

**Acceptable Use** - The purpose of computer resources, including the Internet, is to support research and education in and among academic institutions in the United States by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. **User access must be in support of education and research and consistent with the educational objectives of Rich Township High School District 227.** Resources may not be used in violation of any Federal, state or local regulation. Computer resources may not be used to upload, download, or distribute pornographic, obscene, sexually explicit, or material that espouses hate, separation or intimidation of any group of people. Computer resources may not be used to infringe on copyright or to plagiarize materials.

**Employees should not use school district computer equipment or the Internet to do the following:**

- Engage in any commercial activities, product promotion, political lobbying or illegal activities.
- Access or download or distribute pornography, or any obscene or sexually explicit materials.
- Break into or attempt to break into any other computer network.
- Damage/attempt to damage, move, or remove software, files or data belonging to other users.
- Use unauthorized software products.
- Engage in wasteful or frivolous purposes such as playing electronic games, or downloading large files.
- Create or distribute or share computer viruses; or maliciously attempt to harm or destroy data.

In addition all aspects of the federal law "Children's Internet Protection Act" (CIPA), <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html> are in place for the protection of our students.

Thank you,

Ted Koutavas  
Director of Technology