



What filters are being used and how do they work?

Murray City School District uses the Utah Education Network (UEN) recommended iBoss content filtering system. This filtering system is the standard in the state of Utah for schools. We also use a Sophos firewall that has a filtering function to further filter content not effectively blocked by the iBoss system. Content is categorized and allowed or blocked according to default settings that are deemed appropriate for K-12 education.

Despite the use of industry-proven preventative measures, Internet filtering is an evolving technology. The ability to bypass filters or trick them is also evolving. The district technology department updates the content lists daily and the firmware as quickly as possible to keep the platform stable. There remains a small chance that inappropriate sites or material may be inadvertently accessed by Murray City School District computer users. In such cases, students are encouraged to notify a school employee immediately. Employees experiencing such incidents should make a report to school level administration. These reports will then be followed up on by the district technology department to take appropriate action and make needed adjustments in preventative measures.



Are there different settings used for different grades and school levels?

Although most blocked sites are blocked on all student and guest networks, we do have some different sets of filtering rules for elementary, junior high, and high school students. This gives student's the access to information they need for their courses. There are some sites allowed at the high school level that are not allowed at the junior high or elementary level. Similarly, there are some sites allowed at the junior high level that are not allowed at the elementary level.



How are frequently used sites such as YouTube and Google filtered?

YouTube is available to students in restricted mode. Students may only access YouTube by logging in using their district provided Gmail account. Students are only able to watch videos on YouTube that have been approved by Murray City School District teachers or administrative staff.

Google searches are checked for specific key words and sites are blocked according to the content rules set forth in the filtering software. An alert is sent to district technology personnel when these key words are searched.



What management systems are used on devices that provide additional control?

Desktop and Laptop Devices: LanSchool is used to manage desktop and laptop devices. This allows the teacher to monitor the screens of users electronically as well as lock down certain screens.

Chromebook Devices: The Google management system is used which only allows extensions to the Chrome browser that are approved by the district technology department. This management system allows the district to manage what apps and services are available for users.

iPads: The Apple Device Management System Mosyle Manager is used to manage all iPads in the district. This allows us to manage which apps are loaded onto the devices and to purchase apps legally for school use.

Kindles: Amazon Whispcast is used to manage all Kindle devices in the district. This allows us to manage which apps are loaded onto the devices and to purchase apps legally for school use.



What resources does the district provide concerning educating students on safe internet use and digital citizenship?

All students will receive an online device orientation no later than October 15. They will receive at least one lesson in each of the following topics over the course of the school year: self-image and identify, cyberbullying, relationships and communication, privacy and security, information literacy. Additionally, teachers who have their students go online should include digital citizenship as part of their regular instruction.

In our secondary schools, specialty classes that use computers include digital citizenship as part of their curriculum. These classes include College and Career Awareness as well as Business and CTE classes. Each student in grades 9-12 is required to complete .5 credit of computer technology for high school graduation. Courses that fulfill this requirement include standards specifically addressing digital citizenship topics.



What resources does the district provide concerning educating parents/guardians on safe internet use and digital citizenship?

As part of the registration process, parents/guardians must watch a seven minute video through the Safe Schools platform. A digital certificate of completion is created after the parent/guardian completes this. This information is saved in a district database.



What resources does the district provide concerning educating teachers on safe internet use and digital citizenship?

All certified teachers are required to complete the online Murray School District Citizenship and Digital Learning course through Canvas or UEN face-to-face training. This course trains teachers on digital citizenship and how to keep their tech savvy students safe while using different components of technology in and out of the classroom.

Additionally, a series of twenty-one (21) Murray School District technology certification courses are available for teachers online through Canvas. These courses can be complete as teachers would like to strengthen their knowledge of digital learning in the classroom.

Two (2) technology instructional coaches are available for teachers to access with regards to digital citizenship and digital learning needs.



What is the protocol when inappropriate content is accessed?

Teachers are asked to monitor students whenever they are online, either electronically or by walking around the classroom.

When inappropriate content is accessed by a student or staff member (either seemingly by accident or on purpose), the student or students should be removed from the situation and the school administration should be notified. The devices should be isolated and the district technology department should be contacted. Besides working to fix any issue discovered, the district technology department will work with the school administration to gather information and take appropriate measures if the Acceptable Use Policy was violated.



E-Rate Funding

E-rate provides discounts for Internet access and connections to eligible schools and libraries. E-Rate funding is used to pay for the Internet connections between our schools, the district office, and the Utah Education Network. E-Rate funding is also used to update network equipment in our schools.