

**BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
G 14: Review of Controversial Web Sites**

Former Policy IJNDB

It is the policy of the Burlington School District to use the Internet to support and enrich the curriculum, taking into account the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities and development levels of the students. It is also the policy of the Burlington School District to support the safe, ethical, responsible, and legal use of the Internet. In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Burlington School District has instituted a Technology Protection Measure (TPM), commonly called a filter.

If a teacher finds that access to a particular web site has been blocked by the Technology Protection Measure, the following general steps are available to the teacher to request that the site become unblocked:

1. Initial Request
Formal Request to the building administrator.
 - a) If the building administrator feels the site should remain blocked, then the teacher may appeal to the next level.
 - b) If the building administrator feels the site should be opened, then the building administrator will forward the request to the Superintendent.

2. Review Committee
Appeal or administrator request to the review committee. The review committee will represent the district as a whole, and consist of members of each academic level.
 - a) If the committee feels the site should be blocked, then appeal can be made to the Superintendent.
 - b) If the committee feels the site should be opened, then it will forward the recommendation to the Superintendent.

3. Superintendent
Appeal by teacher or committee recommendation to the Superintendent.
 - a) If the Superintendent feels the site should be blocked, then appeal can be made to the school board.
 - b) If the Superintendent feels the site should be opened, s/he has the authority to approve the unblocking of the site.

4. School board.
Appeal to the School Board. The decision of the school Board shall be final.

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, will coordinate and oversee the review process. During the review process the site will remain blocked. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall develop procedures necessary to implement this policy. Those procedures will include a clear statement of steps and any forms necessary for the appeal process.

The building administrator, or his/her designee, will be responsible for implementing these procedures at a building level.

If any person feels that a web site should be blocked which is not currently blocked by the Technology Protection Measure, then policy G 17 and its procedures shall apply.

Legal References: 47 U.S.C. 254(h)(B) and (1) - The Children's Internet/Online Protection Act of 1998, as amended;
18 U.S.C. §2510 et seq. - Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986, as amended;
18 U.S.C. §2251 - Federal Child Pornography Law;
47 U.S.C. § 230 et seq.- The Communications Decency Act except for (47 U.S.C. 223(a)(1)(B)(ii) and 223(d) that were found unconstitutional by US Supreme Court)
13 V.S.A. §2801 et seq. - Obscenity, Minors.

Cross References: G 6R Student Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources
D 10 Employee Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources

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