

BLES 2015
Session 304 * (room 148)

Let's Talk Filtering: The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

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storiescomealive.wikispaces.com
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<http://www.paect.org>

<http://www.paect.org/south-east-region>

<https://storiescomealive.wikispaces.com/home>

<https://etspeaksout.wikispaces.com>

Who Are You?

Tech Director

Classroom Teacher

Parent

CIO

STUDENT

Librarian

Computer Lab Teacher

Principal

**School Board
Member**

Elected Official

Academic Coach

and does this shape your opinion of filtering...

Let's talk about filtering...

Is it any / some / all of the following
and how do we make it better?

Good

Impossible

Cumbersome

Necessary

Bad

Ugly

Content filtering and the products that offer this service can be divided into

web filtering: the screening of Web sites or pages

e-mail filtering: the screening of e-mail for spam or other objectionable content.

❖ Can we make this filtering thing that we must do **reasonable** for our teachers and students **AND** **responsible** to our laws and communities? (who, what, where, why)

❖ Students want all of the web open, teachers want it locked down, parents want both and administrators are torn in all directions.

❖ I want us to teach responsibility and consequences of actions, but the laws are clear, **or** **are they...**

What is CIPA?

What is E-rate?

What is FERPA?

**what is each's purpose,
and are they related
or relevant here?**

**Are there more related laws to
Filtering
and Privacy
and Data...**

**and do you feel the same
about them**

What is in place in Philadelphia:

ITFC was authorized by the CIO, Deputy CIO, Executive Director of Educational Technology on 10/1/09, based on recommendations from Regional Superintendents and Principals (and from some strong lobbying from myself and a few colleagues.

We were told to make recommendations....
(so I / We did, and even kept our jobs!)

10/8/2009 ITFC meets for the first time to review Technology Services (networking) plan for web portal to be used for requesting exceptions to the current list of blocked web pages.

7 members 3 from ETG, 4 from Teaching and Learning, one from Technology Services* (networking)

1/4/2010:

New procedures for Internet Filtering Requests.

Following the recommendations from the Instructional Technology Filtering Committee, requests for changes in internet filtering are now handled by an Internet Filtering Team. To send request for a change site to be blocked or unblocked, a school-based faculty member uses a new Single-Sign-On tool to log their request. The reasons for the request can be detailed and when submitted an email is generated to the Principal of that school. The Principal either approves or denies the request from their building. If approved, the request goes to all seven of the members of the committee for their vote. If a unanimous decision is made, the change takes place. The team meets once a month for requests that need further discussion.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

- [STUDENTS](#) 
- [PARENTS](#) 
- [EDUCATORS](#) 
- [EMPLOYEES](#) 



School District of Philadelphia

PARENTS

Username:

Password:

[Login](#)

[Forgot Your Password?](#)
[Register for an Account](#)

STUDENTS

Student ID:

Password:

[Login](#)

[Forgot Your Password?](#)
[Register for an Account](#)

EMPLOYEES

Username:

Password:

[Login](#)

[Help?](#)

Internet Filtering Exception Request

This application provides school-based instructional and administrative staff with the ability to request modifications or exceptions to the School District of Philadelphia's Internet filtering system. School-based staff are required to supply their e-mail username and password before submitting an internet filtering exception request.

All requests to block or unblock an Internet website will require a justification consistent with the District's academic mission and goals. After you've completed the on-line request, your Principal will automatically be notified and will be required to authorize the review of your filtering exception request by the Instructional Technology Filtering Committee.

A request that has been authorized by your Principal will be reviewed by the committee no later than the last day of the month in which the request was received. Changes to the District's filtering system, if approved, will occur within 10 days of the start of the following month.

[Continue](#)

Generate your exception request by completing this form:

Requestor: MARK PERLMAN

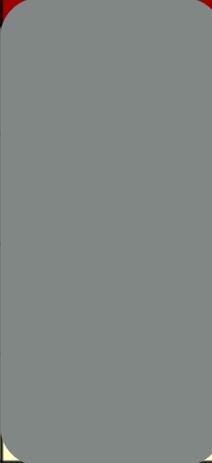
School: EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY GROUP

Principal: FRAN NEWBERG

Website URL: Block URL Unblock URL**Justification:**

Provide a detailed explanation that will clearly support your exception request to block/unblock the website indicated above. Please be advised that your explanation is required in order to assist the committee in understanding and acting upon your request.

Submit

Confirmation Number	Website URL	Action	School	Requestor	Your Status		Approved by Principal	Votes Needed
FR337	www.twitter.com	block	BIRNEY, GEN. DAVID B. SCHOOL		Voted	No	02/16/2010	1
FR342	www.twitter.com	block	DUCKREY, TANNER SCHOOL		Voted	No	04/10/2010	1
FR512	www.twitter.com	block	ARTHUR, CHESTER A. SCHOOL		Voted	No	04/13/2010	1
FR01153	You Tube, Kongregate.com	unblock	CROSSROADS ACCELERATED ACADEMY		Need to Vote	No	02/03/2011	8

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Review All Open Requests

Confirmation Number	URL	Action	School	Requestor
FR337	www.twitter.com	block	BIRNEY, GEN. DAVID B. SCHOOL	
FR342	www.twitter.com	block	DUCKREY, TANNER SCHOOL	
FR512	www.twitter.com	block	ARTHUR, CHESTER A. SCHOOL	
FR01145	http://sketchfu.com/	block	MCDANIEL, DELAPLAINE SCHOOL	
FR01153	You Tube, Kongregate.com	unblock	CROSSROADS ACCELERATED ACADEMY	
FR01164	www.bearcupcake.com	block	ROOSEVELT, THEODORE MIDDLE SCH	
FR01165	http://comic.qq.com/	block	MC CALL, GEN. GEORGE A. SCHOOL	
FR01166	www.swis.org	unblock	JUNIATA PARK ACADEMY	
FR01170	http://planbook123.appspot.com/	unblock	WEBSTER, JOHN H. SCHOOL	

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Notes from my discussions with SDP Exec Dir's of Online Safety and Networking & Telecommunications:

shared resource

streaming • storage • climate • culture • control

educational V personal

can it be done - yes, but do you have the time to manage the 'white list'

leadership team discuss what is broken and how to fix it...

what about BYOD / access

academic input for content filtering

twitter ? pictures and movies (CIPA policy does not mandate that)

google v bing

port management in firewall

proxy avoidance (subscription to daily lists available)

open DNS (for smaller installations) we cannot due to number of requests

Blue coat is one of our choke points... (full 10 gigabit service)

https inspection

all google.com should not be valid

NAC (network access control)

tiered access for teachers/students

proxy: caching is less important with larger pipelines

cacheing can and should be done at the sender end

public performances (netflix, comcast)

PAIUnet is beginning to have content for streaming

why are some things blocked (mitigating risk for the school district - Disney content....)

entity responsible, not the individual

filtering is not cheap!

it's an unfunded mandate (CIPA dictates and affects eRate and related funding)

peppm: bluecoat and websense prices

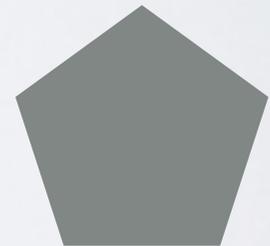
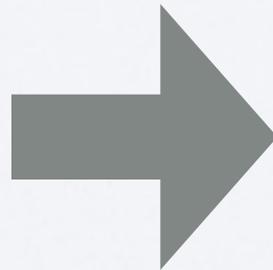
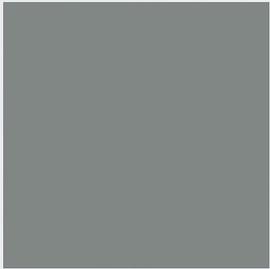
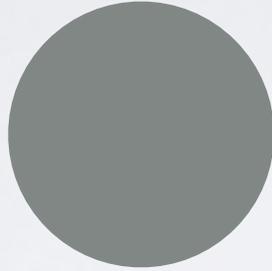
only 13/14% of the internet is covered for content!

"My thoughts... I 'understand' the urge to lockdown, deny, forbid, etc, because it definitely falls under the whole "Imagine the worst thing that could happen, spin in the worst light and put in on the front page of the NY Post" syndrome. But we have to move away from that. We have to stop thinking that only the "worst thing that could happen" should drive our decisions. We can work with families to say, "Students and teachers use social media. It is a way to strengthen our communities, and we want to figure out how we can use it together."

Moreover, I don't think we have to force ourselves on kids. I don't ever ask students to friend me on Facebook, but I always accept if they ask me to. On twitter, if a student has a public twitter feed, I follow it, but if they have a private feed, I only follow them if they follow me first. That is about student agency and choice. They get to choose if they want me in that part of their world.

Deeper than that, though, I think it is incumbent upon schools to teach kids about their digital footprint... and not just in the "Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt" kind of way. We can teach kids to use these tools wisely and well. And we have to remember that if we aren't teaching them, who is? Using social media is, more and more, part of being a citizen in today's society. If we believe that the role of school is, at least in part, to help students become full members of a civil society, don't we have an obligation to allow these tools into our school?

After all, when the President takes questions over YouTube, and schools can't take part, what is the message we send?"



Chris Lehmann
Founding Principal
Science Leadership Academy
Assistant Superintendent
Innovative Schools Network
School District of Philadelphia

sent to me January 2011
for my Filtering presentation
PETE&C (peteandc.org), February, 2011

and what about Internet Safety.....

At long last, the FCC has issued an order that, among other things, implements the Children's Internet Protection Act's not so new language about schools educating students regarding appropriate behavior in online chat and social networking sites and about cyberbullying. While there are many small decisions within this order, the one that stands out is that the Commission is leaving it to districts to determine how to "educate" their students on appropriate online behavior. This is a win for us and exactly how we advocated that the Commission support. The Commission does not mandate that districts buy cybersafety materials or courses, as many unscrupulous vendors have suggested, and direct districts to use government resources. It does, however, require districts to incorporate within their Internet safety policies information on how they plan to educate students. Those updates to Internet safety policies need not occur until July 1, 2012 and will not necessarily involve holding a public hearing re. the updating. Here is some pertinent language from the order:

"We will not detail specific procedures or curriculum for schools to use in educating students about appropriate online behavior because these are determinations that are better be made by schools implementing this policy in the first instance. Furthermore, section 254(l), is an example of Congress's intent to have local authorities make decisions in this area. We believe that by not defining terms such as "cyberbullying" in this proceeding, we are acting in accordance with this intent. We note, however, that schools can find a number of resources available to them as they prepare their Internet safety policies to provide for the education of students about appropriate online behavior. Many of these resources are online, including, for example, the ideas and links for parents of children that use the Internet supported by OnGuardOnline.gov, the website the Federal Trade Commission jointly developed with the FCC, other federal government offices, and various technology industry organizations."

"Although we encourage schools to update their Internet safety policies as soon as practicable, making this requirement effective for the 2012 funding year, which begins July 1, 2012, will give schools adequate time to amend their Internet safety policies and to implement procedures to comply with the new requirements after the completion of this rulemaking proceeding. Unless required by local or state rules, schools will not need to issue an additional public notice and hold a hearing in order to update their Internet safety policies in accordance with the new Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act requirements. We also note that although the FCC Forms 486 and 479 do not need to be amended because the existing language already incorporates a certification of compliance with all of the statutory requirements, the instructions to these forms will be revised to list each requirement individually, including the requirements we adopt today."

The order also contains other revisions to and codifications of existing rules. For instance, it indicates that Facebook and MySpace need not be blocked as neither site is per se harmful to minors.

The full order can be found here: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-11-125A1.doc

<http://fepproject.org/factsheets/filtering.html>
<http://holtthink.tumblr.com/search/filtering>
http://www.ehow.com/list_6916764_pros-cons-internet-filtering-schools.html
<http://www.aclu.org/dont-filter-me-web-content-filtering-schools>
<http://balancedfiltering.org>
http://www.nap.edu/netsafekids/pro_fm_filter.html
<http://www.edutopia.org/blocking-filtering-lockdowns-oh-my>
http://www.edutopia.org/search/apachesolr_search/filtering
<http://www.ncte.ie/Broadband/ContentFiltering/>
http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech058.shtml
http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/curr070.shtml
<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/cipa.html>
<http://theinnovativeeducator.blogspot.com>
<http://www.learnnc.org/lp/external/3298>
<http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/filtering/>
<http://infopeople.org/resources/filtering/>
<http://www.ncsl.org/issues-research/telecom/state-internet-filtering-laws.aspx>
<http://debatewise.org/debates/1492-school-internet-filters/>
http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=Intellectual_Freedom_Issues&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=29043
<http://makethegrade.weebly.com/1/post/2012/12/warning-web-filtering-blocks-education.html>
<https://www.bluecoat.com/products-and-solutions/blue-coat-webfilter-intelligence-services>
<http://www.phila.k12.pa.us/offices/administration/policies/CodeofConduct.pdf>
<http://www.philasd.org/offices/administration/policies/815.pdf>