Murray City School District
DISTRICT SAFE TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP REPORT
2022-2023

What filters are being used, and how do they work?

Murray City School District uses the Utah Education and Telehealth Network (UETN) contracted Content Keeper content filtering system. This filtering system is the most commonly chosen among the Wasatch Front Districts from the options provided by UETN. We also use a Palo Alto firewall and Net-Ref management system with a filtering function to further block content when it does not get blocked in the Content Keeper. Content is categorized as allowed or blocked according to default settings deemed appropriate for K-12 education. Chromebooks that use district email accounts will not be able to access the internet until the device is connected with the Content Keeper Cloud system.

Despite using 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 slight chance that Murray City School District computer users may inadvertently access inappropriate sites or material. In such cases, students are encouraged to notify a school employee immediately. Employees experiencing such incidents should make a report to school-level administration. The district technology department will then follow up on these reports 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 have different sets of filtering rules for elementary, junior high, and high school students. Some sites are allowed at the high school level and not 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. This gives students access to information they need for their courses.

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

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

Google searches are checked for specific keywords, and sites are blocked according to the content rules outlined in the filtering software. When these keywords are searched, district technology personnel send an alert.

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

Desktop and Laptop Devices: LanSchool and/or Net-Ref are used in our computer labs. These allow the teacher to monitor users' screens from their computer and pause computer or internet usage to keep the class focused.

Chromebook Devices: The Google management system is used and is configured to only allow extensions to the Chrome browser that the district technology department approves. This management system allows the district to manage what apps and services are available for teachers and students. The Net-Ref system monitors student usage; teachers can set enable or block lists while students are in their classes.

iPads: The Apple Device Management System Mosyle Manager manages all iPads in the district. This allows us to control 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?

In Elementary, 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 identity, cyberbullying, relationships and communication, privacy and security, and information literacy. MCSD will also follow the Common Sense Education Digital Citizenship Curriculum and its scope and sequence. Students will receive at least one lesson in each of the following six topics over the course of the school year: Media Balance and Well-Being, Digital Footprint & Identity, Privacy and Security, Relationships & Communication, Cyberbullying, Digital Drama & Hate Speech, News & Media Literacy.

In our secondary schools, specialty classes that use computers include digital citizenship as part of their curriculum. These classes include College and Career Awareness and Business/CTE classes. Each student in grades 9-12 is required to complete .5 credits 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?

The PowerUp page on our Teaching and Learning website (under the Programs tab) has a link for digital citizenship lessons. We are using resources from Common Sense Education.

Parents are provided a short video during registration, which introduces online safety and care of the Chromebooks provided for their students.

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 technology components 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 completed as teachers want to strengthen their knowledge of digital learning in the classroom.

Two (2) technology instructional coaches are available for teachers regarding 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 (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 fixing 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 is violated.

Longview Elementary Safe Technology and Digital Citizenship Report 2022-2023

What devices are being used, and how are classes using them?

Chromebooks are used in every class to complete assignments through either Google Classroom or Seesaw (K) and also to access programs like Lexia, Zearn, and other district supported programs that help students practice classroom content or close missing gaps. These programs are used as seamless supports during classroom instruction. iPads and Kindles are also used in some classroom for specific apps that support learning during centers and rotations.

What are the main applications, programs, and sites used in different classes, grade levels, and subject areas?

Google Classroom is used in all classes (1-6) and SeeSaw (K) as the Learning Management System (LMS). Through these platforms other programs and applications are used in conjunction with Clever (program housing platform). GreatMinds and Zearn are all used for math. Lexia, RAZKids, Utah Compose and NewsELA are used for language arts. UEN.org, FOSS, and Mystery Science are used for science. Typing Agent is used for keyboarding instruction.

What supervision practices are in place when students are online?

Students are never allowed on any device at school alone. Adult supervision is key to keeping students safe. When students are on electronic devices a few different practices are in place. If it is an iPad or Kindle the guided access feature is used to keep students locked into the desired application and teachers check the history before logging students out. When students are on Chromebooks or computers the teacher is physically walking around the classroom monitoring what students are doing, and also have access to watch all students active Chromebooks from their teacher computers. Additionally, teachers frequently check student histories and take appropriate action when something questionable appears on those histories.

NetRef is also highly used and monitored as an additional resource in helping monitor student online usage. Teachers often use the block features to block anything other than the few sites they want students to access.

Are there management tools used that allow teachers to digitally monitor student use or limit access to come applications or sites?

Yes, we use a program called NetRef, which allows teachers to digitally monitor student use, freeze student access, or limit access while on all digital devices. This program takes screenshots in regular increments and teachers/administrators are able to review that data as needed as well. The district has used this program to limit the times of day students are able to use their district issued devices. At the elementary level students are not able to use their device from 9 PM - 7 AM to help prevent access when adults may not be available to help monitor student activity. Additionally, teachers often use the features in NetRef to restrict access to any site or program other than the few they want students to be able to access during a given timeframe.

What are the school rules when inappropriate information appears for students, staff, and parents?

At school students are instructed to put their "lids" halfway down. This prevents other students from seeing any inappropriate information, but allows students to let the staff know so that they can follow up with getting the information needed to investigate how the information was accessed. Staff report to the principal, and also let guardians know of the incident. Principal follows up with the MCSD technology department and investigates if access was accidental and if so how to prevent it, or if it was student initiated and follows up appropriately with student and guardians. If parents become aware of an incident that was not reported at school, or that happens at home we ask that parents please let both the classroom teacher and principal know so that proper steps can be followed.

Are there safe reporting procedures for students, staff, and parents so that reporting is safe and encouraged?
Yes. We have found that for the most part students and staff feel just as safe reporting right in the moment, but if they do not they have the option to write a note to their teacher, report to another adult either at school or at home. Staff report via email most often, but occasionally through the district safe reporting site which is also accessible to parents.

How does the school balance access and safety for the grade levels at your school?
By only making grade level intended content easily accessible to students primarily through their Clever logins. Anything that is linked in Clever goes through a rigorous investigation before it is permitted to be linked.

What does the administration see as important opportunities for our students related to constructive, proactive technology use?

The most important thing we hope to help students understand is how the use of technology can help deepen and expand their learning and classroom instruction. It provides endless possibilities for creativity, collaboration, and expression. Proactively we try to help students understand how technology can be used for good, but how just simple little things can enable technology to be used to hurt or harm others through things like cyberbullying and potential pedophile access. We try to help students understand safety settings and why there are certain things that should never be shared electronically (this is primarily important with our upper grade students in regards to various social media and texting platforms.)

What training is currently provided to students about digital citizenship and safe use of technology?

For the 2022-2023 school year we utilized modules created by NearPod which were specific and appropriate for grade level bands along with some additional district created lessons surrounding digital citizenship and safety. This instruction was given primarily during the first two weeks of school, but has been used additionally throughout the first term.

What training or information is provided to parents about how to discuss and support digital citizenship and safe technology use with their children and how to report inappropriate content?
For the 2022-2023 school year, safety information has been sent to all MCSD families through the use of ParentSquare, which enables all families to access the information in their desired home language, making the distribution of this information more equitable for all families.