



Saline Area Schools

Cybersafety - District Overview & General Practices

Technology plays an integral role in everyday lives in this day and age. The Internet is an amazing resource that provides easy access to millions of websites with information, video, music, pictures, games and much, much more. Through the Internet, students can find and share information, learn concepts and connect with people from around the world. While the Internet offers great advantages to teaching & learning, it can also be used by identity thieves, cyberpredators and cyberbullies to hunt, harass and harm others. Additionally, with the Internet also easily accessible on computers and other devices like cell phones, tablets, VR/AR headsets, and game consoles, safe and responsible online behavior is more critical than ever!

As technology continues to evolve for each of our students, Saline Area Schools (SAS) strives to provide its students with the necessary skills to be successful digital citizens in the 21st century world. When given the proper tools and opportunities, SAS believes that each student can be successful digital consumers and producers. Many of these valuable online tools and resources are available to students on a daily basis to support, enhance and engage the classroom learning experiences. SAS provides not only the means to access online resources, but also stresses and models cybersafety awareness to students as they navigate through the web. Internet access provided by the District is filtered as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

To help protect students from online missteps and abuses, SAS has and will continue to educate students, staff and parents on various aspects of cybersafety including:

- Cybersecurity:
 - know how to protect your data
 - keep software, plugins and virus protection up-to-date
 - set privacy settings
 - keep a clean machine
- Cybersafety:
 - everything we do ONLINE is intertwined with our life OFFLINE
 - cyberbullying
 - sharing too much information
 - posting inappropriate pictures
- Cyberethics:
 - treating others online like YOU would like to be treated
 - posting online can be more hurtful than saying in person
 - illegally downloading media is like stealing from a store
 - creating unnecessary drama
- Key Topics: identity safety & privacy, cyberpredators, cyberbullying, piracy & plagiarism, inappropriate content, sexting and social networks

District-wide Cybersafety Practices

Saline Area Schools implements the [Stop. Think. Connect!](#) campaign which is a national public awareness campaign conducted by the Department of Homeland Security in cooperation with the National Cyber Security

Alliance. This campaign is about providing an easy way for students to remember key statements that should be thought through before going online:

- ❑ STOP: Before you go online, take time to understand the risks and learn how to spot potential problems.
- ❑ THINK: Take time to think about the places you are visiting online, the information you are sharing and the communities you are participating in. Always watch for warning signs and consider how your actions online could impact your safety or others.
- ❑ CONNECT: If you have taken the time to STOP & THINK, then you can CONNECT online with greater confidence and enjoy knowing that you've taken the right steps to safeguard yourself and your computer.

To ensure student online safety and security, Saline Area Schools has established a series of cybersafety activities/experiences at different grade levels to expose and grow student understandings:

Grades/Grade Range	Activities/Experiences
Kindergarten to Graduation (ages 5-26)	All students sign a Technology Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) each year at the beginning of the school year.
Kindergarten through 4th Grade	All students in grades K-4 receive cybersafety training in their Media Class throughout the entire school year.
6th Grade through 8th Grade	All students participate in a yearly Cybersafety assembly and follow-up classroom activities in partnership with Washtenaw Area Council for Children advocacy group.
High School Health Students	All students that take the Health class at Saline High School participate in a cybersafety component embedded within the curriculum.
High School Students in Computer Business Classes	All students that take Computer Business Classes at Saline High School participate in a cybersafety refresher course embedded within the curriculum.
All Grades	All staff members model appropriate cybersafety practices to support the classroom activities and projects that include a technology component throughout the school year.
All Grades	The District utilizes both a filter and a human monitoring services to oversee all internet and email communications to ensure good student choices and well-being.

Additional Resources:

October 11, 2023: Strategies for Supporting Student Wellness, focusing on the use of social media and digital devices. Guest speakers: Dr. Jenny Radesky and Robin Batten.

- Y5-3rd Grade: [Healthy Relationships with Media](#)
- 4th-12th Grade Resources:
 - [Parent Tips](#)

- [Chatting with kids about being online](#)
- [Internet safety at home](#)
- [Gaming safely \(Gaming safely en Espanol\)](#)
- [Sextortion: What parents should know \(Sextortion en Espanol\)](#)

Michigan Has Laws...Be Informed!

- **Cybersafety**
 - Michigan law prohibits a person from contacting another individual with the intent to frighten or harass that individual (up to 1 year, or 5 years if involving a "credible threat of death").
 - Michigan law also separately prohibits using a computer to communicate with any person for the purpose of stalking (up to 2 years in prison).
 - A 2001 law criminalizes the posting of personal or embarrassing information about another person without their consent (up to 2 years in prison).
 - Michigan cyberbullying law went into effect at the beginning of 2019 which makes cyberbullying a crime punishable by jail time. If found guilty, a person can be charged criminally. After a first offense, those found guilty of cyberbullying may receive up to 90 days of jail time. Second offenses can be up to a year. In extreme cases, cyberbullying may be escalated to the felony level.
- **Sexting**
 - A teen who has self-produced and distributed sexually explicit images could be charged with prostitution, solicitation, indecent exposure or child pornography.
 - knowingly producing - up to 20 years
 - knowingly distributing - up to 7 years
 - knowingly possessing - up to 4 years
 - soliciting a minor (under 16) for immoral purposes - up to 4 years
 - Whoever took the photo would be charged with "producing".
 - Charges can result in jail, probation, and/or listing on Sex Offender Registry.