

**DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

SERIES 600: EDUCATION PROGRAMS

POLICY 615.1

INTERNET SAFETY POLICY/APPROPRIATE STUDENT USE POLICY

The Diocesan Board of Education recognizes that access to technology in schools and parishes gives students greater opportunities to learn, engage, communicate, and develop skills that will prepare them for work, life, service, growth opportunities in the Catholic faith, and Christian citizenship. The schools of the diocese are committed to helping students develop 21st-century technology and communication skills.

Prior to use of any school owned technology, students will be provided instruction regarding these or the local schools' policies and regulations regarding the use of technology.

Technologies covered

The Diocese of Davenport schools may provide internet access, desktop computers, mobile computers or devices, videoconferencing capabilities, online collaboration capabilities, message boards, email, and more. As new technologies become available, the schools of the Diocese of Davenport will attempt to provide access, if the technologies are deemed educationally appropriate and beneficial to further understanding the Catholic faith. The policies outlined in this document are intended to cover all available technologies, not just those specifically listed.

Internet-Appropriate use

To safeguard the Internet and its users, the Diocese requires that the following regulations be enforced by the system administrators of each Internet access site in the Diocese:

This policy represents the Diocese of Davenport's good-faith efforts to promote safe, ethical, responsible, and legal use of the internet, support the effective use of the internet for educational purposes, protect students against potential dangers in their use of the internet, and ensure accountability.

The Diocese of Davenport schools' Internet system has an educational purpose and has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. The local diocesan school has the right to place restrictions on its use to ensure that use of the system is in accord with its education purpose. Any network or computer may be monitored for improper use, network diagnosis and virus detection.

Along with the inherent freedom of the Internet comes the possibility of accessing material that is not consistent with the Catholic faith. Although precautions should be taken to restrict access to controversial materials, such access may still be possible. The schools of the Diocese of Davenport have the right to place restrictions on use to ensure that use of the technology systems is in accord with its educational purpose.

Transmission or intended reception of any material in violation of any national, state, or local regulation is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret. Use for commercial activities, product advertisement, or political lobbying is prohibited. Intended transmission or reception of material that would tend to violate the moral teaching of the Catholic Church or be scandalous to the Church is also prohibited.