

CARROLL COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Policy Reference: Children's Internet Protection

**References: 17 USC §1701-1741
18 USC §1460
18 USC §2256**

CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT SAFETY POLICY

I. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to comply with the guidelines of The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), a federal law enacted by Congress to address concerns about access to offensive content over the Internet on school and library computers.

II. Definitions:

- A. "Board" means the Carroll County Board of Developmental Disabilities.
- B. "Hacking" is the unauthorized use of protected software or hardware with the intent to manipulate, eliminate, or add features to the operating program or to the data that is generated.
- C. "Internet" includes any electronic interaction facilitated by access to the World Wide Web via the use of personal or laptop computers.

III. Policy:

- A. The Board recognizes that it is in the best interest of the children educated at the Carroll Hills School to have only limited or controlled access to the Internet per the recommendations of CIPA. Those recommendations include:
 - 1. Limiting access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet
 - 2. Ensuring the safety of and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of electronic communication
 - 3. Preventing unauthorized access including "hacking" and other unlawful activities by minors online
 - 4. Preventing the unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal

information regarding minors

5. Restricting minors' access to materials that may be harmful to them
- B. Protection measures will include the ability to block or filter Internet access to pictures, graphics, and text that are:
1. Obscene
 2. Child pornography
 3. Harmful to minors
- C. Students enrolled in the Carroll Hills Program will be trained on proper internet etiquette including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, as well as cyber bullying awareness and response to it. Training will be based upon child's present educational level and comprehension skills
- D. The Carroll Hills School agrees to monitor any and all online activities of the children in its programs. Access to the Internet will only be initiated by a principal, teacher, classroom assistant, or therapist employed or contracted by the agency and he or she will continue to monitor the activities of the student while the Internet is in use.
- E. Access to the Internet will be limited to children-friendly websites that have been deemed safe by the principal, teacher, classroom assistant, or therapist via printed or online recommendation of educators or qualified agencies and by personal review of the website by that person prior to introducing it to the students.
- F. The Carroll Hills School will not permit access to electronic mail, chat rooms, or other electronic communication by its students.
- G. The Carroll Hills School will hold a public meeting to explain the policy to those who are interested.
- H. The Carroll Hills School will review the policy annually with staff to ensure that the policies are understood and will be maintained during the school year.

Adopted Date: 7-26-2012

Signature of Board Officer: _____