

South Central Kansas Library System
Model Public Computer Use Policy
February/March 2007

Board Approved (date) – Amended (date)

1. Background

The Library is committed to the principles of intellectual freedom and the freedom to access information from a variety of sources. The Internet is an information resource that enables public library users to access a diverse variety of information beyond that contained in the library's own collection. Some content which the library does not control may be offensive or may be illegal under the laws of the State of Kansas.

2. Library Responsibilities

The Library provides Internet access for education and research in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws. (Local option: The Library uses Internet filtering software and/or other means to block content on some or all of its Internet access computers.) (Local option: The Library provides access to recommended, age-appropriate sites through its web links.)

3. Internet User Responsibilities

- a. The Library does not have the legal authority to act “in loco parentis” (in place of parents) and Library staff are not responsible for your child’s use of the Internet.
- b. Users may download files from a Web site directly to any supported portable storage media.
- c. Users shall:
 - 1. Respect the legal protection provided by copyright license to software, books, articles and other electronic files.
 - 2. Respect the privacy of others.
- d. Users shall not:
 - 1. Access illegal Internet sites as defined by state and federal laws.
 - 2. Access web pages or sites that contain materials that are defined in Kansas statutes as “harmful to minors” (KSA 21-4301c) or “obscene” (KSA 21-4301.)
 - 3. Gain or try to gain unauthorized access to restricted resources or entities.
 - 4. “Hack into or interfere” with other users, system operations, integrity or security of the library computer system or any other computer system
 - 5. Attempt to gain access to another person’s files or passwords
 - 6. Intentionally obtain copies or modify files, passwords or data that belong to the Library or its users.
 - 7. Harass others with messages, prints, images, cyberbullying or software programs.

3. Internet User Responsibilities (continued)

d. Users shall not:

8. Load or run any software other than that which resides on the library's computers.
9. Tamper with, mishandle, damage or attempt to damage computer hardware or software.
10. Access a non-library wireless network while on library premises.
11. (Local option: Interfere with, deliberately attempt to circumvent, or tamper with the filtering software.)
12. (Local option: Use the library's computers for gambling or gaming.)
13. (Local option: Use the library computer for social networking.)

4. Printing

The Library makes printing from library computers available at a nominal charge.

5. Limitation of Liability

The Library assumes no liability for loss or damage to the user's data, the user's portable storage media or for any damage or injury arising from invasion of the user's privacy or from viruses that may infect the user's portable storage media or files. (Local Option: The Library cannot guarantee that Internet filters will block offensive and /or illegal materials.)

6. Enforcement and consequences for violating policy

The Library monitors public computers for violations of this policy. Staff is authorized to take immediate action to protect the security of computers and the network or to enforce any part of this policy. This includes requiring a user to leave the computer or the premises and contacting law enforcement authorities. A user may request the Library Board reconsider this policy by making a written request to the Library Director.

7. Use of the Library's computers constitutes agreement with this policy.