

# Securly Web Filtering

USD266 recognizes the importance of safety while using the internet for educational activities. Therefore, USD266 has activated the Securly web filter. While USD266 recognizes that no one filter can be 100%, we understand that this security can keep our students safer while using the internet.

## What is Securly?

Securly is a cloud-based subscription service that offers K-12 Internet content filtering. Websites that students attempt to visit are checked against a list of categorized sites. If the website is found in a prohibited category, the student's access to the website is blocked and an event is logged into a management console.

## Why is the District using Securly?

To comply with the federal CIPA law, public school districts must take steps to prevent students from accessing pornographic materials while using district connectivity or equipment. CIPA compliance is required on all school district devices, whether they are in use at school or elsewhere. Thus, Securly fills the need for offsite content filtering. Also, remember that these devices are the property of the school district, no matter when the device is being used. These devices' primary purpose is for usage in applications, communications, and websites that support our educational mission. Recreational Internet use is a "side benefit" that is allowable as long as it does not conflict with school and district policies and expectations.

## When is my student using Securly?

The following are clear examples of when the filter is active or not:

- Securly filters by username, not device.
- Securly only works on chromebooks.
- Securly is active if the student logs in with their USD 266 user credentials on any chromebook. All chrome activity is filtered and visible, but not continuously or regularly monitored by USD 266.
- Securly is active if the student logs in on a personal chromebook using their USD 266 user credentials.
- Securly is not active if the student logs in with their USD 266 user credentials in a chrome browser on a windows machine, mac, or phone.

## What exactly is being blocked by Securly?

Our goal with Securly is to block access to the same categories of websites for offsite use as we do for users within the school walls. We are in the process of fine-tuning our filtering categories, but as of 07-2018 these categories are currently being blocked:

- Pornography
- Drugs
- Gambling
- Other Adult content
- Anonymous Proxies
- Hate
- Games (varies by educational use)

## What should not be blocked by Securly?

Educationally-appropriate sites should not be blocked, although unintentional misclassification of sites can occur by Securly. Please let the district know of any website that you know is educationally valid that is being blocked.

### **Is Securly fully effective?**

No content filtering solution should be seen as being 100% accurate or effective. Content filtering does not replace vigilant parents at home or vigilant teachers at school. Parents at home should still exercise caution and use normal vigilance in monitoring their student's use of Internet resources.

#### ***Disclaimer***

*The Maize Public Schools are not assuming any duty or obligation to continuously monitor any notifications or alerts, but will use the Securly Software as an aid to monitor internet searches and activity. The Securly System Alerts and its ability to identify potential inappropriate internet activity, suicidal ideation, and/or cyberbullying is inherently disadvantaged by software technology and limitations on the ability to effectively monitor the alerts. Maize Public Schools obtained Securly software recognizing that it is only an aid and does not guaranty either prevention or detection of self-harm or cyber-bullying.*

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**For additional information regarding web filtering, please feel free to contact**

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