LIBRARY POLICY: A-65

EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/10/11 (This policy supersedes 11/23/96)

SUBJECT: Internet Use at the Library

POLICY:

Sunnyvale Public library is committed to the principles of the intellectual freedom, promotion of literacy, encouragement of lifetime learning and provision of materials and informational services. The Library provides the public with as wide a spectrum of materials as possible. The Internet, a global network of thousands of computers connecting all over the world, offers vast amounts of information far beyond the Sunnyvale Public Library's collection. It allows access to ideas and information from a multitude of sites spread over the globe.

While the library offers selected connection to a wide range of useful and interesting sites through its home pages and bookmarks, all public Internet sites are accessible to users. The Internet is an unregulated medium. While it offers access to a wealth of local, national and international information that is enriching to individuals of various ages, it also enables access to some materials that may be considered offensive, controversial or disturbing. Also, as with printed sources, not all information on the Internet is accurate, complete or current. The library does not control or monitor material that can be accessed through the Internet. Individual users must accept responsibility for the right of each individual to have access to constitutionally protected content.

It is the responsibility and the right of the parents to determine and monitor their children's use of library materials and resources, including the Internet. Each parent needs to decide which resources are appropriate for his/her own children's use.

The Library provides use of the World Wide Web, a graphical interface for a part of the Internet. It does not provide e-mail accounts.

The U.S. Copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code) prohibits unauthorized reproduction or distribution of copyrighted materials; therefore users may not copy or distribute electronically accessed materials without permission of the copyright holder, except as permitted by "fair use" principles. Responsibility for copyright infringement is with the users. The library disclaims liability resulting from such infringements.

Modifying or attempting to damage computer equipment or software is vandalism to library property and may result in prohibition of use of Library computers as well as legal action.

PREPARED BY: Susan Denniston 9/26/11
Date

This policy was approved on 10/10/11 and is to be included in the library policy manual.

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