



GAGGLE SAFETY MANAGEMENT FOR STUDENTS



Students in Grades 3 – 12 have access to and utilize Microsoft Office 365 to complete school assignments. Office 365 is an online portal which provides access to Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and other productivity software in a cloud-based environment. Students in Grades 3 through 5 utilize Office 365 in a restricted environment. They are only able to send and receive email to others in the “obps.org” domain. Student use of email and online storage is limited for elementary students.

Students in Grades 6 – 12 benefit from learning opportunities outside of the obps.org domain. Students at the secondary level learn from communicating with experts, emailing their government representatives, and communicating with other students throughout the world. Student use of email and online storage expands outside of the obps.org domain for secondary students.

The terms of the **Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA)** require school districts to provide an extra level of protection for student communications outside of the domain. This year we will put in place an additional filter for email and online storage for secondary students called **Gaggle Safety Management**.

Gaggle Safety Management provides an extra layer of protection by scanning school-related student email and online storage to ensure a safe environment where students can use educational technology for productive, academic purposes. Gaggle does this by combining a digital scan of student-produced email/documents with a “real person” review. A Gaggle Safety Representative is only called into play if an email or document is generated by a student which contains questionable content.

Questionable content includes, but is not limited to:

- An immediate threat to a student
- A cyber-bullying event
- Pornographic images
- Drugs or alcohol
- Graphic, violent or sexually-related stories
- Files not associated with an assignment
- Profanity

In non-emergency situations, students are warned via email that content is inappropriate and advised that further infractions will be referred to district administrators. Gaggle utilizes a “3-Strikes” policy where, upon the 3rd Strike, privileges are temporarily restricted until a district administrator can review for possible disciplinary action.

In emergency situations, Gaggle Safety Representatives directly contact district administrators and local law enforcement for immediate intervention. An emergency situation is defined as:

- Death threat
- Suicide
- Gun or Bomb threat
- Threat of rape or killing

In extreme situations, any communications related to the potential exploitation of children is reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

As a school district, we are committed to providing each student with a safe, productive learning environment. For more information on Gaggle Safety Management for Students, please visit: <https://www.gaggle.net/overview/gaggle-safety-management/>.