



Web Filter Category Change Proposal

The BVSD Internet Advisory Committee (IAC) and I.T. Governance Committee have been presented with requests from numerous educators to re-evaluate the current web filter categories that determine what content is blocked for students on the Internet. In order to sustain New Century Graduate skills, teachers and students need full access to appropriate, interactive content on the Internet.

To embrace the true potential of learning outside the walls of the classroom, the committee would like to propose a one year pilot on the following changes to our Internet filter for high school students only:

Categories to Unblock	Educational Examples	High School Students	Middle School Students	Elementary Students
<u>Collaborative Web Tools:</u> Blogs/Personal Pages Personal Email Message Boards Chat Online Communities Instant Messaging(IM)	Edublogs Teacher Tube Skype ePals Artsonia Pbwiki Kerpoof Gizmo's Google docs, groups, sites, & email Microsoft live@edu watchknow.org	Unblock	Remain blocked	Remain blocked
Games	Simulations (Gizmo's) Serious Games* Chess Interactive 3D Content	Unblock	Remain blocked	Remain blocked

Professional Development: In addition to unblocking the necessary categories, the IAC understands that importance of professional support for high school teachers regarding teaching, learning, and classroom management with appropriate use of collaborative web tools. The committee is currently in development stages of creating support documents, train the trainer workshops, as well as support groups.



* Serious Games are electronic games with purpose to link entertainment with academic success.