

Dear Parents of Class of 2019:

High School District 211 staff continually gathers input and suggestions from students, parents, and staff regarding ways to strengthen the effectiveness of our one-to-one iPad program. Feedback consistently indicates that students benefit from reduced distractions while using their school-assigned iPads. In response, we have successfully configured iPad settings to focus students' attention on learning activities. These include blocking access to the App Store and limiting access to social media apps such as Facebook and Twitter. Students, parents, and staff have reported positive experiences after implementation of these device settings.

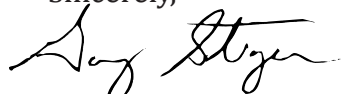
Another way District 211 helps students remain focused on academic tasks while using their school-assigned iPads is by filtering access to Internet content. Specifically, when students are using their school-assigned iPad on campus, Palatine High School uses an Internet content filter to block access to websites deemed unsuitable for school. Examples include websites devoted to games, gambling and weapons. Feedback indicates students would benefit from Internet content controls when using their school-assigned iPad outside of the school environment and, after several months successfully piloting an out-of-school Internet content filter during the second semester of the 2016-2017 school year, the out-of-school Internet content filter will be applied to all students effective with the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

On Tuesday, August 22, 2017, all Palatine High School juniors will have the same Internet content filtering applied to their iPad outside the school environment as when the students are in school. The Internet will remain accessible while away from school only when the students log into the District's Internet content filter (the iBoss Network). Websites blocked while in school will be blocked when the iPad is used outside of school. Students will receive instructions for logging in and those instructions are available at <http://tinyurl.com/phsiboss>.

The Palatine High School technology department, located in the media center, is available during the school day to support any student experiencing difficulty accessing the Internet while outside of school.

If you have any questions about your child's device or Internet content filtering, please contact the technology department at (847) 755-1761.

Sincerely,



Gary Steiger, Principal  
Palatine High School