Hi Dan,

 Of course, my Library isn't a big one.  But I am very militant that we will not take over the responsibility of parents. If they don't want their kids to be on the computers, they must be with them to enforce it. Period. That's up to them.  Staff won't take time to figure out which kids can or can't.  We are same for reading choices.  I can send you our policy which is fashioned after Gwinnett County Georgia (a large system) if you want.  Good luck! Mary

Mary Harrison

Director

Coloma Public Library

151 W. Center Street

PO Box 430

Coloma Michigan  49038

269-468-3431

[www.colomapubliclibrary.net](http://www.colomapubliclibrary.net/)

Hi Dan,

Roseville is a class 5 library.

We request that patrons provide a four-digit PIN that will allow them to access their account in Polaris and log on to the library computers if choose to use the Internet, catalog, etc.  If a parent does not want their child to access the Internet in the library, they can choose to not provide a PIN for their child's library card record.  If they don't want their child to check out certain materials, the parent would have to come with the child to the library and assist them in choosing materials together.

We do not filter any computers, however the children's, teen and adult computers are located in physically separate areas.

Children may only get a guest card to access the internet if their parent/guardian is with them.

Our computer use policy states:

***Responsibility of Parents and Legal Guardians****.  As with other materials in the Library’s collection, it is the Library’s policy that parents or legal guardians are responsible for deciding which Library resources are appropriate for their children.  The Library urges parents and guardians to discuss Internet use with their children and to monitor their use of this educational tool.*

***Access for Patrons Under 18 years of Age****.  Patrons under 18 years of age wishing to access the Library’s Internet must have a signed Internet consent statement contained within the Library card application.  Parents or guardians are responsible for monitoring the use of the minor’s Internet use.  Michigan law prohibits minors from accessing obscene matter or sexually explicit matter that is harmful to minors.  As a result, Library staff will monitor use by minors less than 18 years of age.  By supplying a minor with a PIN, parents or guardians allow the minor access to the Internet in the Library, per the statement on the minor’s library card application.  Computers allowing unfiltered access to the Internet are divided by area and age:  adult (18 years and older), teen (ages 13 to 17 years of age) and children (up to age 12).  The Library’s personal computer management system software allows access to specific computer areas by the age in the Library card record.  Minors may not log in to the adult Internet computers with an adult’s library card and use them independently but must have a parent or guardian sitting with them at computers in the adult area at all times.  The Library’s wireless Internet access is unfiltered and is not password protected.  Parents allowing their minor children to use a portable device with wireless Internet capabilities accept that their child may access unfiltered Internet.*

Because we do not filter, we also are not eligible for E-rate discounts due to CIPA.

Best,

Jackie

Jacalynn Harvey

Director

Roseville Public Library

29777 Gratiot Avenue

Roseville, MI  48066

586-447-4550

Hi Dan,

At Superior District Library [Class V], our policy is that internet is blocked at the patron profile level in our ILS (SirsiDynix WorkFlows) for kids up to age 15, at which point they're "teens," and have access to the filtered library computers. From 11-14, their parents may opt-in — there's a signature card permitting access, and we change their profile from the default "JUVNOSIG" to "JUVWAIVE" manually. Per our Computer & Electronic Information Access Policy:

    Children 10 years old and under must have a parent or guardian with them at all times while they are on the Internet. Children 11-14 must     have a signed permission slip from parent/guardian to use computers without adult supervision.  Parents who sign permission slips for     their children assume responsibility for their children’s use of the Internet.  Parents may restrict their children from access to Internet         resources in the library by not signing a permission slip.

We do also offer guest passes, but ask very young-looking users how old they are before handing them a pass — I'm sure there are some 12-year-olds who skate past us, but it seems to be a workable system overall. Now that you mention it, I don't think we do have a mechanism for blocking internet for older teens, but it hasn't come up.

Wi-fi is a whole other story, of course, and our policy states "Any restriction or monitoring of a minor's access to the libraries’ wireless network is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian."

I'd be interested to hear what you find out from others — it's an interesting question, given the evolving nature of technologies,

Meredith

**---**

**Meredith Sommers**
Library manager

Bayliss Public Library

A Superior District Library

Sault Ste. Marie, MI

Dan,

Southgate is a Class 5.  We expect parents/guardians to *opt in* to allowing minors to use our Internet connected computers; the default is that they are barred.  Our public computer management software requires library cards to be imported in before anyone can use their library card to sign in, so we just don't import the cards of minors. A parent/guardian who wants to allow a minor unrestricted access to our public computers must sign a contract, making it clear they are responsible for anything the minor does or views; then we import the minor library card.  It hasn't happened in my memory, but they could rescind this permission if they wanted, and we'd remove the card from the computer management system.

As to temporary passes, we require a responsible adult to be present and tell us that they are giving permission for the minor to use a public computer.  Even minor patrons who regularly have an adult give permission must receive a new pass every day, with the adult right there giving permission.  It isn't a perfect system, as staff sometimes forget this criteria, but that's pretty rare.

Hope that helps!

Donald Priest
Director
Southgate Veterans Memorial Library
14680 Dix-Toledo Rd.
Southgate MI 48195
734-258-3002

Hi Dan! -

BTPL is a class 5. We do the last thing you said "all minors may access the filtered Internet; it is their guardians’ responsibility to accompany said minors to the library and personally supervise their library use if they don’t wish them to access the library’s Internet connection".

Sounds like your current system is hard to manage. I can't imagine trying to administer the system you have now.

Good luck making change!

Tera Moon
Bloomfield Township Public Library