V. COMPUTER & INTERNET USAGE

Children who are over 8 years of age may use the library's computers unattended for periods of

up to one hour, provided they are able to run the programs without help from the staff. Children

under 8 years old must have an adult beside them at all times.

Sign-up sheets will be posted Saturday mornings for the following week.

Bell Library cannot control the information resources on the Internet, as it is not a static entity. It

changes each minute as new computers connect and existing computers add or delete

information. Therefore, it is technically impossible to prevent access to resources that may be

inaccurate, defamatory, illegal, or potentially objectionable to some people. Bell Memorial Public

Library does abide by the Federal Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) which requires

filtering of all computers in the library.

Bell Library has the right to set and enforce rules and regulations concerning the use of the

Internet.

It is the responsibility of parents and guardians to determine whether to place restrictions on

their own children, 8 years and under, in the use of the Internet.

Users need not be registered borrowers of Bell Library, but must have a signed a copy of the

policy, as do registered patrons.

Users must respect all copyright laws and licensing agreements pertaining to software, files, or

other resources obtained via the Internet.

E-mail will be available to those patrons who have it through search engines or providers such as

Yahoo, Hotmail, etc...

Patrons found ignoring the rules or abusing the system may be banned from the use of the

library's computers up to six months.

All computer and Internet users must have read and acknowledged Bell Memorial's policy by

signing below.

All patrons are given the opportunity to read this policy and have acknowledged their

understanding of these rules & regulations.

Internet Safety Policy

Bell Memorial Public enforces an Internet Safety policy that supports the Children's Internet

Protection Act (CIPA) which addresses issues pertaining to any person younger than 18 years of

age:

access to "inappropriate matter"

safety and security when using e-mail, Facebook, chat rooms and other forms

of direct electronic communication

unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful online activities

unauthorized disclosure of personal identification information

measures designed to restrict access to harmful materials

Through one-on-one conversations and printed materials placed strategically near the public

computer stations, the library offers education to minors about appropriate online behavior,

including cyber bullying awareness and response, and interacting with other individuals on social

networking sites.

Filtering

While BMPL attempts through filtering software to prevent direct access to materials that would not be generally acceptable in a public library, it is technically impossible to prevent access to all objectionable resources. Filtering software also occasionally blocks acceptable sites; therefore, a library staff member will disable the filtering software upon request by an adult user for the purpose of bona fide research or other lawful purposes. However, library rules and restrictions as listed below apply at all times.

The filtering software will not be disabled for users who are minors. It is the responsibility of parents and guardians to monitor and guide their children in the use of library computers and the Internet. Those who do not want their children to access library computers and the Internet may designate such on the child's registration card.

Filtering software will not be disabled for patrons using personal computers or devices while connected to the library's public wireless network because library staff are unable to monitor Internet usage on patrons' personal devices.