

What is GoGuardian?

GoGuardian is a Chromebook management solutions software, intended to try to keep students safer online and make teaching more efficient. The Waterford Township School District (“WTSD”) uses GoGuardian to filter and monitor websites that students visit to attempt to block inappropriate material on the Internet and to assist classroom teachers in keeping students on-task and engaged. While WTSD uses GoGuardian as a tool to try to protect students from inappropriate Internet content, WTSD does not guarantee that students will not be able to access any inappropriate material on the Internet.

Who is monitoring my student’s activity and is the software collecting data and uploading it?

Teachers may use GoGuardian to monitor students’ Internet use in the classroom, whether in-person or remote, so that teachers can keep students engaged in the curriculum as directed by the teacher. Teachers can also identify specific websites that students are permitted to visit for instructional purposes. A student’s teacher can view his/her use information during the class period. GoGuardian is also used by school administrators to monitor students’ activity for violations of WTSD’s Acceptable Use Policy. A student’s use information is viewable by WTSD’s Administration, Building Principals, and Assistant Principals. Teachers and administrators located in other WTSD schools are not permitted to view the information for students they do not supervise at their building. Information about students’ activity is not uploaded anywhere.

Is GoGuardian Monitored 24/7, 365 days?

No. While GoGuardian software will continuously filter and monitor all student activity conducted using a WTSD-issued Chromebook or WTSD-issued Google account accessed via the Chrome browser, no WTSD teacher or Administrator, or GoGuardian representative, will actively monitor student activity after school hours. Rather, GoGuardian software will issue alerts to responsible Administrators which will be reviewed and responded to in accordance with applicable District Policy and law. Please note, if a student is logged into his/her WTSD account on a personal device, that device will be visible in Go Guardian. Parents are encouraged to make certain that their children are logged out of their school account on any personal device at home when not engaged in school activity.

Parents/Guardians are reminded that any time a student is using a WTSD-issued Chromebook or account, they are subject to WTSD’s Acceptable Use Policy #2361, (Computer, Network, and Internet Use). This includes their use of school property (including their school account) during and after school hours, at which time, the parent/guardian is responsible to supervise student use. A violation of WTSD’s Acceptable Use Policy occurring with a WTSD-issued Chromebook or account, even if outside school hours, may result in repossession of said Chromebook or termination of said account, loss of access, recovery of damages, and/or additional disciplinary

action consistent with existing practice and policy, including, but not limited to appropriate referral to the authorities.

Is there a system to inform parents and allow parents to decide to have their child opt out of such monitoring?

No. Parents cannot opt out of having their child's online activity monitored or filtered because the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires WTSD to maintain technology protection measures that monitor student activity and block or filter Internet access to pictures that are obscene, child pornography, or harmful to minors.