



Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Schools

District No. 2176

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Dear Parent or Guardian:

Keeping our students safe while using a school district device is an important part of our acceptable use policy at Warren-Alvarado-Oslo. In 2000 the CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act) was enacted by Congress stating all schools and libraries subject to CIPA are required to adopt and implement an internet safety policy addressing:

- Access by minors to inappropriate matter on the Internet;
- The safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms and other forms of direct electronic communications;
- Unauthorized access, including so-called "hacking," and other unlawful activities by minors online;
- Unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and
- Measures restricting minors' access to materials harmful to them.

With this in mind, Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Schools along with a Sonic Firewall, has adopted an online service provided by Securly & Bark for Schools. Securly is an online classroom tool that is utilized by teachers and protects students by filtering content, monitoring activity, and helps students be more focused when using a school issued device. Bark for Schools is a free online application we implemented to monitor our WAO students' Google accounts to keep them safe. Warren-Alvarado-Oslo issues student email addresses (waostudent.org) as part of our educational experience for all students in grades 1-12. **Bark for Schools** helps us monitor school-issued accounts for signs of digital dangers. When potential issues like cyberbullying, suicidal ideation, and threats of violence arise, Bark sends us a notification. Once the notification is received, we will inform those necessary.

How are we using Securly Classroom at WAO?

We have chosen Securly Classroom services as a classroom tool to:

- Help protect students against harmful and inappropriate online material.
- Help students stay more focused when learning online.
- Help assess students' progress towards class assignments.
- Facilitate communication between teachers and students during class time.
- Push out websites appropriate for the lesson.
- Send classroom announcements.

Securly & Bark are web-based services that operate when a student is signed in to their school managed email account while using a supported device. Warren-Alvarado-Oslo will be utilizing Securly & Bark on all student devices (Chromebooks and iPads). Warren-Alvarado-Oslo enables teachers to use Securly classroom with students in their classes **only during school hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday**. Bark is continuously monitoring the waostudent.org emails and Google drive data for potential issues like cyberbullying, suicidal ideation and threats of violence.

Warren-Alvarado-Oslo selected Securly & Bark services to help our students stay safer and more focused online. We will work with students during class time to help teach them digital responsibility and safety. Additionally, we will train teachers about how to operate Securly and about our policies and procedures to help protect student privacy.

We ask that students use their school-managed accounts and devices for educational purposes within the boundaries of Warren-Alvarado-Oslo's Acceptable Use Policies. When a student is off campus, parents are responsible for supervising internet access and usage. We encourage you to discuss rules for appropriate internet usage with your child, and reinforce lessons of digital citizenship and safety with him or her.

Warren-Alvarado-Oslo holds your child's internet safety & privacy to a high standard. Implementing Securly Classroom and Bark will foster these safety measures & environments. Securly's mission is to foster safe and focused learning environments through technology, while keeping students healthy and engaged. Securly meets or exceeds the highest standards for student data privacy, including maintaining compliance with all state, federal, and international data privacy regulations.

We are here to answer any questions that you may have about Securly or Bark for Schools.

Sincerely,

Heidi Thorstenson - District Technology Director

Amber Schoepp - District Technology Coordinator