

# LEISD introduces Gaggle.net to Secondary Schools

## What is Gaggle?

Gaggle is dedicated to providing safe email accounts for students. The tools we provide allow schools to finally feel secure when giving their students email access.

On the Gaggle Network teachers control what can be written and who can correspond with the students. Messages with inappropriate words are automatically re-routed to the teacher's account. This allows the teacher to decide whether or not the student gets to see the message.

## Gaggle.Net Makes E-mail Safe






Using the automated message filtering systems in Gaggle.Net, teachers can easily stop all of the following kinds of messages:

-  **Teasing and threats**
-  **Racial attacks**
-  **Hate messages**
-  **Sexual harassment**
-  **Vulgar speech**
-  **Gang language**
-  **Outsider predators**
-  **Other intruders**

The teacher is also able to review (and block) messages to or from domains that publish pornography or encourage violence. Last of all, the teacher has control over the attachments to messages, which includes pornography. With easy checks and occasional enforcement, teachers can easily provide a safe email experience for all students. Gaggle.Net is everything you want and nothing you don't!

## E-mail is Educational

There is a special kind of learning that takes place when students interact via email. The obvious learning activities include writing and typing. Writing can be divided into many categories: interpersonal communication, written conversation, question and answer, short essay, etc. Some less obvious learning opportunities are also available when your students have email. Examples are:

-  **Impersonations:** interchange with others who are in character. This is a fantastic way to learn about great people in history, different cultures, etc.
-  **Daily Media:** electronic newsletters delivered via email. There are hundreds of these. Students can share what they learn from these with others in the class. Examples might include a daily: fact, word, historical event, poem, political quotation, and many others.
-  **Question and Answer:** includes everything from ask a reporter to ask a scientist. There are many companies and individuals willing to communicate with students who ask questions. Pitsco also offers a wonderful site called [Ask An Expert](#).
-  **Email Mentors:** a few projects exist to match successful adults with students who can benefit from the interchange.
-  **Electronic Appearances:** communication that stems from online involvement in a webcast event, such as a summit meeting on education, child abuse, feeding the poor, etc. Students follow the event and then make an electronic appearance by sending their comments to the event via email.

## Gaggle helps LEISD Students meet TEKS Requirements

### Chapter 126. Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Technology Applications

**Solving problems.** The student uses research skills and electronic communication, with appropriate supervision, to create new knowledge. The student is expected to:

- (A) participate with electronic communities as a learner, initiator, contributor, and teacher/mentor;
- (B) complete tasks using technological collaboration such as sharing information through on-line communications;
- (C) use groupware, collaborative software, and productivity tools to create products;
- (D) use technology in self-directed activities by sharing products for defined audiences; and
- (E) integrate acquired technology applications skills, strategies, and use of the word processor, database, spreadsheet, telecommunications, draw, paint, and utility programs into the foundation and enrichment curricula.

For more information about Gaggle.net—visit their website at <http://www.gaggle.net>

If you **do not** want your child to participate in a school email program please call (972-292-1847 ext. 13013) or send an email to: [mtowles@leisd.ws](mailto:mtowles@leisd.ws) and we can remove your student from the program or we can remove your student's access to certain gaggle components—such as chat room, blogs, etc....