

From: Robert A. Lusk [mailto:RLusk@luskalbertson.com]
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2011 1:08 PM
To: jblock@alcu.org
Subject: FW: Fwd: FW: Filtering at Wayne-Westfield Community Schools

Josh, as discussed.

Robert A. Lusk
Lusk & Albertson, PLC
40950 Woodward Ave., Ste. 350
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
(248) 988-5662 (DID)
(248) 709-3596 (Cell)

From: Greg Baracy [mailto:BaracyG@wwcs.k12.mi.us]
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 4:43 PM
To: Robert A. Lusk
Subject: Re: Fwd: FW: Filtering at Wayne-Westfield Community Schools

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>>> Seth Wenzel 4/26/2011 4:07 PM >>>

"Quota Time" is a feature of Websense WebSecurity used to limit the amount of time spent on particular website categories. Students are most likely to encounter a Time Quota in the "Online Gaming" category.

Quota Time is not currently, nor has it been in the past, been applied to "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" (or similar) websites. Such sites are assigned another Websense Websecurity feature, called "Confirm", which asks staff and students to click "Continue", "to view the site now for work-related purposes". The "Confirm" is very similar to the Quota Time page in appearance, but the websites therein are available to the users for as long as they remain logged into the network.

To avoid confusion between extensive gaming and legitimate research, the Confirm feature has been removed from the "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" categories. Please see attached log file confirming this change.

>>> Greg Baracy 4/26/2011 2:55 PM >>>
Seth and Kevin,

Is this the case?? Please advise.

Greg

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>>> "Robert A. Lusk" <RLusk@luskalbertson.com> 4/26/2011 2:03 PM >>>

Greg –

These guys don't seem to want to go away. Do you know whether his information is correct?

Robert A. Lusk
Lusk & Albertson, PLC
40950 Woodward Ave., Ste. 350
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
(248) 988-5662 (DID)
(248) 709-3596 (Cell)

From: Joshua Block [mailto:jblock@aclu.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2011 9:48 AM
To: Robert A. Lusk
Cc: Jay Kaplan
Subject: Filtering at Wayne-Westfield Community Schools

Dear Mr. Lusk:

I am writing to confirm whether Wayne-Westfield Community Schools has agreed to disable its filter for "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites, as we requested in our April 11, 2011 letter. In your responding letter dated April 12, 2011 you indicated that "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites can be accessed by students who are properly logged into the school's computer system. I then spoke with you by telephone and explained that our understanding is that the school district requires students to use their limited "quota" time to access "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites, even though comparable websites for other research topics and extra-curricular clubs may be freely accessed without a quota restriction. Imposing a quota on "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" websites places an unjustified and unequal burden on LGBT viewpoints. In addition, every time the computer displays a message identifying a website as "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest," the school district sends an isolating and stigmatizing message to its students that LGBT-related websites are somehow taboo or inappropriate.

Wayne-Westfield Community Schools should disable the "Gay or Lesbian or Bisexual Interest" so students are able to access LGBT websites as easily as they are able to access other comparable resources. We would be happy to discuss this matter with you further and address any concerns the school district may have.

Joshua Block, Staff Attorney
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation
Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender & AIDS Project
125 Broad Street, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10004
212-549-2593 | 212-549-2650 (fax) | jblock@aclu.org

