AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 3, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-254; RELATING TO THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Title 15, chapter 2, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-254, to read:

15-254. Digital media literacy; report; advisory committee; annual review; definition

A. On or before December 1, 2017, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the advisory committee specified in subsection B of this section, shall develop best practices and recommendations for instruction in digital citizenship, Internet safety and media literacy. The best practices and recommendations shall include instruction that provides guidance about thoughtful, safe and strategic uses of online and other media resources and that provides education on how to apply critical thinking skills when consuming and producing information. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives that includes strategies to implement the best practices and recommendations statewide and shall provide a copy of this report to the Secretary of State.

B. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall convene and consult with an advisory committee when developing the best practices and recommendations pursuant to subsection A of this section. The advisory committee shall include experts in digital citizenship, Internet safety and media literacy, teachers, librarians and other stakeholders, including parent associations, educators and administrators. The advisory committee's recommendations may include:

1. Revisions to the State Academic Standards concerning educational technology.

2. Processes necessary for school districts and charter schools to develop customized district and charter school policies and procedures on electronic resources and Internet safety.

3. Best practices, resources and models for instruction in digital citizenship, Internet safety and media literacy.

4. Strategies that will support school districts and charter schools in implementing the best practices and recommendations developed pursuant to this section.

C. Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, school districts and charter schools shall annually review their policies and procedures on electronic resources and Internet safety. In reviewing and amending the policies and procedures, a school district or charter school shall:

1. Involve a representation of students, parents, teachers, librarians, other school employees, administrators and community representatives with experience or expertise in digital citizenship, Internet safety and media literacy issues.
2. Consider customizing the model policies and procedures on electronic resources and internet safety developed pursuant to this section.

3. Consider existing school district or charter school resources.

4. Consider best practices, resources and models for instruction in digital citizenship, internet safety and media literacy, including methods to involve parents.

D. The superintendent of public instruction shall recommend that school districts and charter schools provide internet safety education that includes the following topics:

1. Safe and responsible use of social networking websites, chat rooms, e-mail, bulletin boards, instant messaging and other means of communication on the internet.

2. Recognizing, avoiding and reporting online solicitations of students, classmates and friends by sexual predators.

3. The risks of transmitting personal information through the internet.

4. Recognizing and avoiding unsolicited or deceptive communications received online.

5. Recognizing and reporting online harassment and cyberbullying.

6. Reporting illegal activities and communications on the internet.

7. Copyright laws on written materials, photographs, music and videos.

E. For the purposes of this section, "digital citizenship" includes the norms of appropriate, responsible and healthy behavior related to current technology use, including digital and media literacy, ethics, etiquette and security. Digital citizenship includes the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, develop, produce and interpret media, as well as internet safety and cyberbullying prevention and response.

Sec. 2. Intent

The legislature recognizes that as technology becomes more prevalent, students must learn how to safely, ethically, responsibly and effectively use technology. The legislature intends to provide a process by which students, parents or guardians, teachers, librarians, other school employees, administrators and community representatives will engage in an ongoing discussion on safe technology use, internet use, digital citizenship and media literacy.