

STUDENT AGREEMENT FOR ACCEPTABLE USE OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

You are being given access to Galena Park ISD's Technology Resources. GPISD's goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence by facilitating and providing communications for resource sharing, collaborative work, databases, software, and access to other online resources. Access to Internet resources also brings the possibility of encountering material that may not be considered appropriate in an educational setting. The District has taken available precautions, including but not limited to enforcing the use of filters that block access to inappropriate or non-educational sites. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all material and an industrious user may obtain access to inappropriate information or material. The District firmly believes that the value of the information and interaction available on the Internet far outweighs the possibility that students and employees may procure material which is not consistent with our educational goals.

It is all staff members' responsibility to educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interactions with other individuals on social networking sites/chat rooms, and cyber bullying awareness and response. In addition to the district provided Internet Safety curriculum, teachers may conduct yearly short training sessions, one-on-one education with individual students, and/or via educational handouts. It is also the responsibility of all staff members to monitor students' online activity for appropriate behavior.

The successful operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the users who must adhere to strict guidelines. The following rules of acceptable use are provided so that users are aware of the ethical and legal responsibilities associated with the use of network resources.

Policy of Acceptable Use:

A. General Use:

- Access to the District's electronic communication system is a privilege, not a right. Failure to comply with applicable regulations may result in suspension or termination of privileges and other disciplinary action consistent with District policies.
- Students shall keep their passwords confidential.
- Students may not use another individual's account credentials. Unauthorized access including "hacking" and other unlawful activities is prohibited.
- Students are prohibited from changing any computer settings and/or configurations.
- Students may not install any software, including but not limited to commercial software, shareware, freeware, original software and/or utilities onto school computers or networks.
- Students are not allowed to have access to any restricted, password-protected program, such as the Student Information Systems (SIS) software, Business Applications software, and employee Email
- Personal Electronic devices are allowed and can only be connected to the Internet through the district provided Guest wireless network. Connectivity to the district network through a physical connection or secure wireless connection (using district login) is prohibited.
- ALL Acceptable Use Policy regulations apply to ANY devices utilized in GPISD facilities, including personal electronic devices.
- Personal access points, aircards or other connecting devices that provide access to the Internet via a connection not provided by the technology department is strictly prohibited.

B. Internet/Electronic Communications Use:

- Access to the Internet is made available to students exclusively for instructional purposes and in accordance with administrative regulations. Students are to visit only Internet sites, which are appropriate for students and support District learning objectives.
- GPISD electronic communications are not private. Network administrators will review electronic communications and logs of Internet sites visited to verify appropriate use.

C. Computer Ethics:

- Students must abide by copyright laws and Internet Safety Guidelines.
- Students are not allowed to access, copy or transmit materials that are copyrighted, threatening, obscene or protected by trade secrets.
- Product advertisement or lobbying is prohibited.

- Any malicious attempt to harm, modify, or destroy District equipment or materials, data of another user, or any other networks that are connected to the Internet is prohibited and will be viewed as a violation of District Policy.
- Cyber bullying, using profanity and vulgarities or any other inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.
- Students will not give home address, location of school, phone number or any personal information to anyone via the Internet.

D. Consequences

- Violation of any of the policies described above may result in disciplinary actions which could include:
Loss of network privileges, detention, suspension, placement at Center For Success, expulsion, criminal charges, financial responsibility for all costs associated with system restoration including labor, hardware or software repair/ replacement, and restoring the integrity of data.

E. Disclaimer of Liability

- The District shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of electronic communications resources or violations of copyright restrictions, users' mistakes or negligence, or costs incurred by users. The District shall not be responsible for ensuring the accuracy or usability of any information found on the Internet.

STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP) SIGNATURE PAGE

GPISD reserves the right to require renewal of the AUP and this signature page as needed.

Student Signature Section: (Please print)

Name _____ **Grade** _____

School _____

I have read and understand the Student Agreement for Acceptable Use of the Electronic Communications System. I understand the possible consequences for violation of the rules stated in the agreement.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent or Guardian Signature Section:

I have read and understand the Student Agreement for Acceptable Use of the Electronic Communication System. In consideration for the privilege of my child using the District's electronic communications system, and in consideration for having access to public network, I hereby release the District, its operators, and any institutions with which they are affiliated from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my child's use of, or inability to use, the system, including without limitation, the type of damage identified in the District's policy and administrative regulations.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____

Home Address: _____

Date: _____ **Home Phone Number:** _____

If you do not wish for your child to have supervised Internet access at school, please indicate below.