Global Impact STEM Academy
Student Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)

At Global Impact Stem Academy, our students have access to many valuable instructional technology tools as well as Internet access in our media center, technology labs, and classrooms. Our goal is to teach students to utilize these electronic resources to enhance our school’s instructional goals.

1. Student use of instructional media must be in support of grade appropriate GISA Instructional Technology Competencies.
2. Students will use respect and show proper care and handling of all equipment. Any student found to be intentionally damaging any software or hardware will be cited for school property abuse.
3. Students are expected to respect and not attempt to bypass security in place on computers. Changing or attempting to change a computer’s settings is a violation of acceptable use of our equipment.
4. Students will observe software copyright laws. No students will bring software from home to copy on school workstations, nor will students copy school software for personal use.
5. When using the Internet, students will be held responsible for information viewed, received, and sent.
6. Students are expected to respect the work and ownership rights of students, staff, and people outside the building.

The Board recognizes that electronic media, including the Internet, provides access to a wide variety of instructional resources in an effort to enhance educational opportunities. Use of electronic resources must be in support of, and consistent with the vision, mission and goals established by the Board and for the purpose of instructional support. All users of the district wide area network and/or other electronic informational services must maintain strict compliance with all applicable ethical and legal rules and regulations regarding access. The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that all GISA technology users share the GISA technology resources in an effective, efficient, ethical and lawful manner. GISA technology should be used for legitimate educational reasons only, and not for personal use.

Strict compliance with all applicable ethical and legal rules and regulations must be maintained by all users of the GISA network and/or other electronic informational services including electronic mail (e-mail). Users must respect intellectual property rights and understand that school system data accessible over the network, regardless of the computer or device being used, constitutes property. All electronic, telephonic, and communications transmitted by, received from, or stored in these systems are property of the Global Impact STEM Academy. Users of such systems should have no expectation of privacy. Student e-mail use for legitimate educational purposes will be subject to monitoring and review, including review of text and attachments that are related to that student or students. At NO TIME, should a student consider GISA e-mail private or confidential in any way.

It is important to note that with a global network it is impossible to control or predict all materials a user may accidentally or purposefully discover on an electronic resource. Global Impact STEM Academy personnel will make every effort to educate and guide all users in the proper use of electronic media, including the Internet. Because access to the Internet provides connections to other computer systems located all over the world, users (and parents of users) must understand that neither the Global Impact STEM Academy nor any district staff member controls the content of the information available on these other systems. Some of the information available is controversial and sometimes may be offensive. Global Impact STEM Academy DOES NOT CONDONE the use of such materials. Therefore, it is imperative that the user be held accountable for the appropriate utilization of this technology.

Use of the District’s technology resources to access or transmit obscene, pornographic or violent materials or to transmit materials likely to be threatening, offensive or objectionable is prohibited. Such prohibited materials include, but are not limited to, “hacking” materials; “cyberbullying” activities; racist material or hate literature; terrorism instructions/directions or other dangerous information; profane or vulgar materials; threatening or inflammatory language; false or defamatory materials; disparagement of others based on race, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, ancestry, disability, age, sex, or sexual orientation; and any materials that advocate violating others rights. In the context of educational purposes, the District may allow research or investigation of some objectionable materials to allow students to be better prepared to recognize social harms and improve their ability to deal effectively therewith.

Network and technology access is a privilege. Inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of these privileges as well as possible assignment of disciplinary action consistent with the policies and procedures of Global Impact STEM Academy. All students are expected to treat this learning tool with respect. GISA technology and electronic resources must not be used to:

- Harm other people.
- Interfere with other people’s work or use a computer to steal property.
- Gain unauthorized access to other people’s files or resources by using someone else’s password.
- Make changes to the hardware or software configurations or installations of any machine.
- Improperly using the network. This includes introducing software viruses and/or bypassing local school or office security policies.
- Steal or damage data and/or computers and network equipment.
- Access, upload, download, and distribute pornographic, hate-oriented, profane, obscene, or sexually explicit material.

iTunes use is allowed through a school assigned account. Syncing school assigned accounts with personal accounts is prohibited. Vouchers or iTunes prepaid cards can only be used on school assigned accounts. Apps purchased through a school assigned account, regardless of funding source, are the property of the Global Impact STEM Academy.

Legal parent/guardian permission is not necessary for student participation in Ohio Department of Education required online testing. (Pending state and federal laws, rules and regulations)

All students must promptly report to a teacher any inappropriate information or material they encounter when using the Internet or which they believe may be available based on Internet usage by other individuals. Any student who receives a comment, through any school related Technology Resource, that makes him/her feel uncomfortable or that is not respectful must tell his/her teacher, administrator or principal immediately. (The student should not respond to the comment.)

The District will educate minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response. The Director/designee will develop a program to educate students on these issues.