



Guntersville City Schools Technology Use Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of the Guntersville City Schools (GCS) Technology Use Policy is to facilitate communications and collaboration between members of the Guntersville City Schools community, which includes both staff and students. Technology provides expanded educational opportunities through resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

Child Internet Protection Act/Neighborhood Child Internet Protection Policy:

CIPA:

In accordance with CIPA guidelines, Guntersville City Schools has implemented a “technology protection measure” – generally referred to as an Internet filter – to block access to visual depictions deemed “obscene,” “child pornography,” and/or “harmful to minors.”

NCIPA:

Guntersville City Schools also comply with the NCIPA provisions:

- “the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of direct electronic communications” (i.e. instant messaging, social media, etc.)
- “unauthorized access, including so-called ‘hacking,’ and other unlawful activities by minors online”
- “measures designed to restrict minors’ access to material harmful to minors”

Applicability:

This policy applies to each member of the Guntersville City School System—whether at educational institutions or elsewhere—and refers to all information sources, whether individually controlled or shared, stand alone, or networked. The Guntersville City Board of Education shall remain the final authority on use of the Internet/Network and issuance of user accounts.

Technology policies will be reviewed annually. Students will be trained on these policies as it relates to CIPA and NCIPA. Parents will be responsible for reviewing policies and signing the agreement thereof.



Privileges and Rights:

The use of technology is a privilege, not a right. If a student is using a personally owned electronic device on school grounds, it is subject to the Technology Use Policy. Software will be used to block access to inappropriate materials, and students must be taught responsible use of technology. While using technology, students and staff must conduct themselves in a responsible, ethical, and polite manner. All users have certain privileges and rights. Users of technology must be aware that Guntersville City Schools cannot assume any liability arising out of the illegal or inappropriate use of technology resources.

These rights include:

Privacy—If a user is believed to be in violation of the guidelines, a system administrator may review communications, data files, and any other electronic media to maintain system integrity and to insure that students/staff are using the system responsibly. Students and staff should not have any reasonable expectations of privacy. Information and data contained on school owned equipment and/or cloud services, even if it is password protected, is subject to review. Guntersville City Schools cannot guarantee the privacy, security, or confidentiality, of any information sent or received, either via the Internet, an email facility, telephone, or otherwise.

Safety—Any user who receives threatening or unwelcome communications should bring them to the attention of a system administrator or teacher.

Intellectual Freedom—Any statement of personal belief is implicitly understood to be representative of the author's individual point of view and not that of the school.

Inappropriate Materials or Language—Profane, abusive, or impolite language (cyberbullying, sexting) should not be used to communicate, nor should materials be accessed which are not in line with the rules of school behavior.

Equal Access—All users will be granted equal access to technology, unless disciplinary measures have been taken. No single user should monopolize the workstations.



Data Security:

All employees shall be responsible for reporting suspected or actual breaches of data security whether due to inappropriate actions, carelessness, loss/theft of devices or failures of technical security measures. Please refer to the Guntersville Data Governance Policy for further details.

Elementary School Students:

Students in grades K-2 have a limited access individual account. With parental permission, students in grades 2-5 may be granted an individual Internet/Network account. Teachers are obligated to directly supervise student use of technology.

Students will:

- a. Meet with a trained faculty member to review the Technology Use Policy (TUP) each year.
- b. Read and agree to follow the TUP (The student and parents' or guardians' signatures on the application form formalizes the agreement.)
- c. Successfully complete the student Internet safety training annually (including CIPA and NCIPA).
- d. Obtain the trainer's signature on the application form to indicate the student has completed the training program and is familiar with the TUP.

Secondary School Students:

With parental permission, students in grades 6-12 may be granted an individual Internet/Network account.

Students will:

- a. Meet with a trained faculty member to review the Technology Use Policy (TUP) each year.
- b. Read and agree to follow the TUP (The student and parents' or guardians' signatures on the application form formalizes the agreement.)
- c. Successfully complete the student Internet safety training annually (including CIPA and NCIPA).
- d. Obtain the trainer's signature on the application form to indicate the student has completed the training program and is familiar with the TUP.



Faculty and Staff:

A faculty or staff member will be granted an Internet/Network account when he/she reads and agrees to follow the Technology Use Policy. Each GCS employee will be required to have on file a signed copy of the TUP/Copyright Application. The employee will be responsible for the use of the account and for confidentiality of the password.

Training: Training programs will be provided for students and staff.



Guntersville City Schools Copyright Policy

Purpose:

The Guntersville City School Board recognizes and abides by the Federal Copyright Law of 1976. Legal References: P.L. 94 – 553. (U.S. Code, Title 17). In recognizing the importance of the Copyright Law of the United States the GCBOE hereby notifies all employees and students that a willful infringement of the law may result in disciplinary action.

The Guntersville City School System recognizes and abides by the Federal Copyright Law of 1976. Legal references: P.L. 94-553. (U.S. Code, Title 17).

Responsibilities:

- a. Any use or reproduction of copyrighted materials will be done either with the written permission of the copyright holder or within the bounds of “Fair Use” guidelines provided in the Copyright Act; otherwise, the individual responsible for use or reproduction may be liable for infringing the copyright under existing laws.
- b. Services that deny use of any copyrighted material due to End User License Agreement (EULA) may not be used within a “Fair Use” environment.
For example: Netflix specifically denies replaying of any of their content in a public setting. Grant of Limited License.
“Netflix grants you (which, for purposes of this License Agreement, shall include members of your immediate household for whom you will be responsible hereunder and users of the Netflix ready device with which you are accessing the Netflix service and for whom you will be responsible hereunder) a non-exclusive, limited, personal and nontransferable license, subject to and conditioned on your compliance with the restrictions set forth in this License Agreement, to install and use the Software, in object code form only, provided to you by or on behalf of Netflix in connection with your use of the Netflix service.”
- c. Copyright is implied for all information (text, data, and graphics) published on the Internet. Student and employee web page authors will be held responsible for the contents of their pages. Do not “borrow” icons, sounds, or graphics from other pages without documented permission. It is the student’s or employee’s responsibility to secure proper usage permission.
- d. Written permission to post student work on the Internet is obtained through the Guntersville City Schools Technology Usage Agreement.
- e. The school board will not provide legal support in such a case where the person has been notified that the potential infringement existed and the individual still has pursued utilizing the materials in such a manner as to result in infringement.