



## **Internet Safety and Technology Acceptable Use Policy 2018-2019 SY**

### **Introduction:**

Venture Academy recognizes the need for a policy governing the use of the electronic information resources by students as outlined in Utah State Code Â§53A-3-422. Responsibility is delegated to the Administration for implementing the policy according to established guidelines.

Electronic information resources will be available to qualifying students at Venture Academy. These resources include access to the Internet and other network files or accounts. Our goal in providing electronic services to students is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

### **Administration Policy:**

Student use of electronic information resources must be in support of education and research and must be consistent with the educational objectives of Venture Academy. While access to all materials on a worldwide network cannot be controlled, Internet access at Venture Academy is filtered and monitored on an ongoing basis.

Internet resources can be valuable for a student's education. School internet access is a privilege which may be authorized as well as withdrawn.

Students are expected to be aware of and abide by the following:

#### **1. Student Personal Safety and Privacy**

Personal contact information may not be shared on Internet sites open to public access. This includes student address, phone numbers and personal e-mail addresses. Entering or otherwise disclosing personal information of other students or organizations is strictly prohibited.

#### **2. Internet Use**

Students may use school Internet access only for educational purposes as directed by teachers and administration. Students are obligated to follow all rules established by teachers and administration regarding the use of the internet for various educational purposes. Students who formally publish school related information on the Internet must first inform a teacher and have appropriate permission, teacher supervision and approval by Venture Academy to do so.

#### **3. Content Filtering and Prohibitions.**

All content is filtered for inappropriate material by network devices. In conjunction with filtering, students are strictly forbidden from:

- Accessing protected files or materials on the school network without authorization.
- Accessing or creating offensive, profane, or pornographic files, or similarly inappropriate material. If inappropriate material is accessed unintentionally, students should let their teacher know immediately.

- Engaging in cyber-bullying activities defined as any electronic communication that has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, demeaning, humiliating, or hostile environment. In such cases where cyber-bullying takes place outside of school or school sponsored events, but is reported to school officials, the report will be turned over to the proper authorities (e.g., parent/guardians, or if unlawful behavior is suspected, law enforcement officials.) The school reserves the right to judge the threat to student safety that any of these outside of school situations present, and to apply disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion.
- Using Internet games such MUDs (Multi-user domains), MMOs (Massively Multiplayer Online games) IRCs, or other such internet applications and resources unless specific permission has been granted by teachers or administration.
- Using internet sites and applications which may seriously compromise the student's safety and security.
- Plagiarize works or violate copyrights or trademarks.
- Attempt to bypass computer security, or gain unauthorized access (i.e., hacking.)

#### **4. Expectation of Privacy**

Students do not have an expectation of privacy in files, disks, documents, Internet history, etc., which have been used or created at the school or with Venture Academy equipment.

In addition, in compliance with state and federal law, students have a limited expectation of privacy on the school's network and internet system resources. Routine monitoring or maintenance may lead to discovery that a user has violated school policy or law. Also, individual targeted searches will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that a user has violated policy or law. Personal electronic devices of any student suspected of violation of the above policy will be confiscated for investigation and may be turned over to law enforcement.

#### **5. Vandalism**

Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy property of the user, another user or of any other agencies or networks that are connected to the Network or the Internet system. Vandalism also includes, but is not limited to: abusive overloading of data on the server or the uploading, downloading or creation of computer viruses. Any engagement in network vandalism constitutes unacceptable use and will subject the student to appropriate disciplinary action.

#### **6. Security**

Security on any computer system is a high priority because of multiple users. Do not use another individual's account or any other login other than your own at any time. Any security concern must be reported to the principal, teacher/supervisor or systems administrator.

#### **7. Disciplinary Actions**

The use of electronic information resources is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use of these resources will result in suspension of privileges, and or disciplinary action (including the possibility of suspension or expulsion), and/or referral to legal authorities. The principal, teacher/supervisor or systems administrator may limit, suspend or revoke access to electronic resources at any time.

#### **8. Online Safety**

As part of Venture Academy's ongoing effort to provide internet safety, students are educated about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites, in chat rooms and cyber bullying awareness and response.