



**NEW**

**GST BOCES is distributing this newsletter to its component school districts to help raise awareness about**

**Digital Citizenship (DC).**

**Each monthly issue will focus on a different topic.**



## WHAT IS DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP?

Digital Citizenship is a concept which helps teachers, technology leaders and parents to understand what students should know to use technology appropriately. It defines the norms of appropriate and responsible technology use.

Proper Digital Citizenship requires knowledge about many areas of technology use including:

- DIGITAL LAW**
- DIGITAL SECURITY**
- DIGITAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
- DIGITAL ACCESS**
- DIGITAL ETIQUETTE**
- DIGITAL COMMUNICATION**
- DIGITAL LITERACY**
- DIGITAL COMMERCE**
- DIGITAL WELLNESS**

This issue will focus on **DIGITAL LAW**

**What Laws do I need to know that effect my children and their online digital information?**



### NYS EDUCATION LAW 2-D

New York State's Education Law 2-D provides protection for, and defines the proper use and storage of student personally identifiable data by schools, vendors, and NYSED. It also sets forth rights for parents and guardian to view all of the data that is being stored about a student.



### DASA - THE DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT

New York State's Dignity for All Students Act (The Dignity Act) provides NYS elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and at a school function as well as on a personal device.



### CIPA - CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT

The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires that K-12 schools and libraries in the United States use Internet filters and implement other measures to protect children from harmful online content as a condition for federal funding.



### COPPA - CHILDREN'S ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT

The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) is a law created to protect the privacy of children under 13. COPPA was passed to address the rapid growth of online marketing techniques in the 1990s that were targeting children. Various Web sites were collecting personal data from children without parental knowledge or consent.

*(continued on the next page)*





## COPYRIGHT LAW & FAIR USE

The Internet and many modern software programs make it very easy to copy digital media (text, images, audio, and video) from one place to another. Most students know how to copy and paste information on their computers.

Unfortunately it is also easy to break the law by re-using copyrighted data in unauthorized ways.

Some students may ask, "How do I know if I can use this information in my own digital projects or creations?"

A general rule of thumb to follow is that if you didn't create the resource yourself you probably don't have the right to use it. Material may be protected by copyright even if it doesn't have a copyright symbol attached to it.

Copyright law does provide some ways that copyrighted material may be used if it meets the limited provisions of the Fair Use exception.

Even though kids can use copyrighted material, providing they meet the Fair Use criteria, why not encourage them to use copyright-free images, video, audio, etc., now.

**Here are a few things we, as parents and teachers, can do to encourage using copyright-free materials:**

1. Filter Google searches to look for copyright-free resources.
2. Look for royalty-free sites with images and music you can use.
3. Explore Creative Commons licensing.
4. Create your own resources rather than using someone else's.



**MORE ABOUT COPYRIGHT & FAIR USE**

## DIGITAL LAWS (continued from page 1)



### FERPA - FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS & PRIVACY ACT

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal privacy law that gives parents certain protections with regard to their children's education records, such as report cards, transcripts, disciplinary records, contact and family information, and class schedules.



### PROTECTING CHILDREN IN THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

A bill to protect children from cybercrimes, including crimes by online predators, to enhance efforts to identify and eliminate child pornography, and to help parents shield their children from material that is inappropriate for minors.

**For more information about any of these federal or state laws you can click on the links next to the title of each law.**



## NEXT MONTH'S DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP TOPIC: DIGITAL SECURITY

## GET THIS MONTH'S DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCE

This month you can download a printable PDF poster with positive statements about Digital Citizenship and technology use.

We call it the Digital Citizenship Pledge.

We hope you enjoy it.

### The DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP Pledge

- I will keep myself **SAFE** on the Internet
- I will keep my information **PRIVATE** and **SECURE**
- I value my **IDENTITY**
- I will develop a good **REPUTATION** online
- I will **COMMUNICATE** respectfully
- I am not a **CYBERBULLY**
- I am digitally and technologically **LITERATE**
- I will give **CREDIT** to others for their work

**I am a DIGITAL CITIZEN**

Prepared for Digital Citizenship in the Future-Ready Classroom  
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