Let's Make the 2020-21 School Year a Great One!

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

"Back to School" used to mean the same thing to most of us - going shopping for new school clothes, and new school supplies, getting a "school" haircut, meeting a new teacher.

This year it will mean a lot of different things to all of us.

Some of us will be going to school 100% virtually and learning remotely like we did last spring.

Some of use may go to school in a hybrid mode with some online/remote class time and some in person time in a socially distanced classroom.

And some of us may be going "old school" with full-time, in-person classes - the way we used to do it.

Whatever mode or method your school may be using we know that this school year will be different for all of us. It will even feel different for your teachers and your principal.

Try to make this year a good year for yourself, your classmates, your teachers, and your parents. And let Digital Citizenship be a big part of it!

For the 2020-2021 school year we will focus on the eight Keys to Digital Citizenship. We will explore the ISTE standards for students, especially the Digital Citizenship standards, which can be found here, http://go.gstric.org/iste-4-students

The Keys to Digital Citizenship

- DIGITAL SAFETY
- DIGITAL IDENTITY
- DIGITAL RESPECT
- DIGITAL COMMUNICATION
- DIGITAL PRIVACY
- DIGITAL REPUTATION
- DIGITAL LITERACY
- DIGITAL SECURITY

ISTE standards require every student to be a good digital citizen. This means understanding the rights and responsibilities that go along with using modern technology. Beyond that, it requires students to act ethically, legally, and safely online.

It's crucial for students to understand how their personal information works online, not to mention who has access to it. That helps them contextualize the modern world and how it works, particularly when people reference "big data," "data mining," and hacking. By fulfilling these criteria, students can understand the unseen factors that affect their lives every day.

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

Part of the GST BOCES Digital Citizenship Initiative
@ GST BOCES, Elmira, NY http://dc.gstboces.org

NEW TO DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP?

A GOOD PLACE TO START IS WITH OUR PLEDGE.

Each of the lines of the pledge is a positive statement that goes along with the keys to digital citizenship from the front page. We encourage you to read the pledge daily and make it part of your regular routine. As you read each line think of your understanding of the key words.

Which of these topics do you need to learn more about?

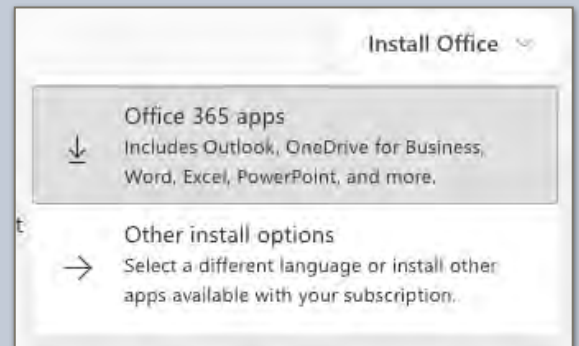Where can you get more information about what it means to be a digital citizen? Ask your teacher or librarian.

You can download a PDF of the pledge and print it from our website at http://dc.gstboces.org or using http://go.gstric.org/2020-pledge

Dear Techie Tom

Dear Techie Tom,

My children are going to be using Microsoft programs for schoolwork and I was wondering if it was possible to install the Microsoft office suite to one of my home devices to allow more flexibility with multiple children using the programs at once? *- Melanie C.*

Yes, Melanie you can install Microsoft Office on a home device to support your children's work at home. In fact, you can install Office on up to five devices. On the Microsoft Office 365 Portal Home page, at the top right will be a link to Install Office:

Install Office

↓ Office 365 apps
Includes Outlook, OneDrive for Business, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and more.

→ Other install options
Select a different language or install other apps available with your subscription.

Be sure to choose which Office 365 apps to install and follow the prompts to complete the process.

Sincerely,
Techie Tom

*Just a reminder that the school issued username and password will be required to use all Office 365 apps.

Microsoft® Office 365

https://www.office.com

A Student's Guide to Device Maintenance Tips

Student Devices Care & Maintenance

Power Saving Tips

TIP: Turn off your device when you are not using it. WHY: It will stay charged longer!

TIP: Turn off your device before charging it in the cart. WHY: It will charge faster. and WHY: It will get hot if left on which may damage the device.

TIP: Check for the light to blink once when putting the device in the cart for charging. WHY: The light lets you know the charger is connected.

Web Browser Tips

TIP: Use Chrome first, especially for Schoology - Use Edge as a backup. DO NOT USE: Internet Explorer. Microsoft is abandoning development on it.

File Saving Tips

TIP: Save your files to your OneDrive. DON'T save them directly to your device. WHY: If your device needs to be fixed. Your files may get erased. If they are saved to your OneDrive you can access them from anywhere.

TIP: When connecting to your OneDrive use your lastname-firstname@gstboces.org to login (this will work for all GST districts).

Windows Update Tips

TIP: Windows updates are pushed twice a month - If you see a notification about a restart or a small green square in the right of the bottom taskbar, please restart your device. WHY: Updates help your device run better and correct bugs/glitches.

Other Issues or Problem Tips

BEST TIP: If your device isn't working properly - try RESTARTING it.
ANOTHER TIP: Let your current teacher/staff member know what is happening.
FINAL TIP: Contact the IT or Tech Services Office. They are there to help.

New App gives local students access to E-books without a Library Card

Thanks to the Sora app all K-12 students in GST BOCES districts now have access to thousands of age-appropriate books electronically, including both their schools and the public library e-book collection.
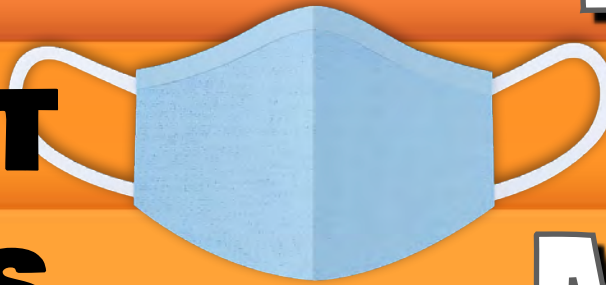
To learn more about the Sora app, contact your school librarian or visit your school library webpage or the GST School Library webpage at http://go.gstric.org/school-libraries.

"Having access to these audiobooks and ebooks electronically means that the library comes to you",

"And the best part is that you can take your books with you on any device."

Mary Ann Munroe
School Library Systems Coordinator
for GST BOCES

I WEAR MY TO PROTECT AS WELL AS MASK YOU MYSELF

DIGITAL CITIZENS ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE, RESPONSIBLE, AND CARING PERSONS USING TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE GOOD DECISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

AT LEAST 6 feet or 2 meters

#COMPLIANCE_BASED_ON_SCIENCE

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**GST BOCES Digital Citizenship Initiative
Safe Socially Distancing - September 2020
Visit http://dc.gstboces.org**

I AM A DIGITAL CITIZEN