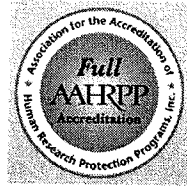




Instructional Technologies & Learning  
Sciences  
2830 Old Main Hill, Logan UT 84322-2830  
(435) 797-2694



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USU IRB Approval: July 26, 2013  
Amendment #5 Approved: May 16, 2014  
Approval Terminates: 07/25/2015  
Protocol #5283  
IRB Password Protected per IRB Administrator

## LETTER OF INFORMATION STUDENTS & PARENTS

### *Utah STEM Action Center Mathematics Technology Evaluation*

Dear Participant:

**Introduction/ Purpose:** Drs. Taylor Martin and Sarah Brasiel are conducting an evaluation of student mathematics learning using grade K-12 mathematics technologies for the Utah STEM Action Center, located at the Governor's Office of Economic Development. We are professors at Utah State University in the Department of Instructional Technology and Learning, and our research focuses on student learning, especially in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. During the 2013 Legislative session, HB 139 was passed which created the STEM Action Center (STEM AC) for the State of Utah. This legislation authorized grade 6-12 mathematics digital technology to be awarded to schools for the 2013-14 school year as a pilot and then for 2014-15 for full implementation. During the 2014 Legislative session, HB 150 was passed which authorized funding for awarding grades K-6 technology products for full implementation 2014-15. This evaluation focuses on whether the technology products used during the 2014-15 academic year are improving student mathematics performance. Your child, along with other students at their school, is invited to participate in this technology evaluation.

**Procedures:** If your child participates in this evaluation, we will collect three primary types of information:

- Your child will complete a pretest and a posttest in mathematics using the technology product the school has selected.
- Your child will complete a short pre-survey and a post-survey related to engagement and interest in mathematics.
- We will also obtain anonymized demographic data about all children at the school from the Utah State Office of Education This will allow us to evaluate the effectiveness of the technology product on student mathematics performance and engagement. None of this information will allow your child to be identified.

We are interested in the effectiveness of selected technology products in improving mathematics performance and college mathematics readiness. The findings from the evaluation will inform future purchasing decisions and scale up of products across the state of Utah to improve student mathematics achievement and college readiness. All of the data collected from this evaluation will be stored securely in our project office.

**Benefits:** Potential benefits of the study include:

- Better understanding of mathematics by your child.
- Improved problem solving and computational thinking skills.

**Risks:** Potential risks are small.

- Loss of confidentiality. We remove or change all personally identifying information to protect privacy.



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**LETTER OF INFORMATION STUDENTS & PARENTS**  
*Utah STEM Action Center Mathematics Technology Evaluation*

**Explanation & Offer to Answer Questions:** This Letter of Information has explained this research study to you. If you have other questions or research-related problems, you may contact, Dr. Taylor Martin at (435) 797-0814 or Dr. Sarah Brasiel at (210) 501-9921, or write to us at: Department of Instructional Technology & Learning Sciences, Utah State University, 2830 Old Main Hill, EDUC 215, Logan, UT, 84322-2830.

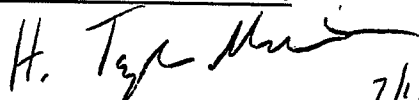
**Voluntary Nature of Participation and Right to Withdraw without Consequence:** The participation of your child is entirely voluntary, and you may take your child out of the evaluation at any time after it begins by calling or writing to us, if you or your child decides not to be in the evaluation any more. No matter what you decide, your decision will not affect your relations with your child’s teacher, the school or Utah State University. **If you do not wish to have your child participate, please complete the section “Decline Participation” at the end of this document and return it to your child’s teacher before the study begins.**

**Confidentiality:** Research records will be kept confidential, consistent with federal and state regulations. Only the investigator and authorized researchers will have access to the data which will be kept in a locked file cabinet or on a password protected computer in a locked room to maintain confidentiality. To protect the privacy of your child, personal, identifiable information will be removed from study documents and replaced with a study identifier. Identifying information will be stored separately from data. All personal information will be destroyed 7 years after the completion of the project per Federal regulations. This includes the study identifier linking your student to the research.


**IRB Approval Statement:** The Institutional Review Board for the protection of human participants at Utah State University has approved this research study. If you have any questions or concerns about your rights or a research-related injury and would like to contact someone other than the research team, you may contact the IRB Administrator at (435) 797-0567 or email [irb@usu.edu](mailto:irb@usu.edu) to obtain information or to offer input.

**Investigator Statement:** I certify that the research study has been explained to the individual, by someone on the research team, and that the individual understands the nature and purpose, the possible risks and benefits associated with taking part in this research study. Any questions that have been raised have been answered.

**Signature of Researchers**

  
 7/1/2014  
 Date

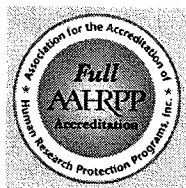
Taylor Martin, PhD  
 Assistant Professor  
 Instructional Technology & Learning Sciences  
 (435) 797-0814 – [taylor.martin@usu.edu](mailto:taylor.martin@usu.edu)

  
 7/1/2014  
 Date

Sarah Brasiel, PhD  
 Senior Research Associate  
 Instructional Technology & Learning Sciences  
 (210)501-9921 – [sarah.brasiel@usu.edu](mailto:sarah.brasiel@usu.edu)



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**LETTER OF INFORMATION STUDENTS & PARENTS**  
*Utah STEM Action Center Mathematics Technology Evaluation*

**Decline Participation - Parent**

I do not wish to have my child participate in this evaluation study.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship to Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parent or Guardian (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Decline Participation - Student**

I do not wish to participate in this research study.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Student (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date