



Apple iOS Devices

You child may use an iPhone or iPod Touch for the miDevice initiative, however, if your concern is the visibility of the screen size, then you may also consider investigating iPads as well.



iOS

The operating system for the mobile Apple devices is known as iOS. We recommend that you update your device regularly, particularly when Apple releases a newer version of iOS. The most current version is iOS 8.

Known Issues

Apple does not support Adobe Flash Player. They will never support Adobe Flash.

Why do you need Adobe Flash? The Flash Player will allow your child to access digital content that could be in the form of videos or interactive content. In younger grades, some schools have purchased digital curriculum programs that have a digital component. Tumble Books, Abdo Digital, and Big Universe are a few examples--all which require Flash. These programs currently do not have apps available, so the need for Flash on the device is required.



Laptop Computers

Any laptop running Windows 7, 8, or 10, and Apple computer running OSX, and Google Chromebooks should be fine for your child. Specific issues will be addressed as problems occur.



The Technology Special Projects division for the Mobile County Public School System has assembled this publication in hopes that it will assist parents and schools when planning and preparing for the miDevice initiative. We consider this to be a living document, so as new schools begin this initiative, updates will be made to further educate all our parties involved.

Parents - please make sure you check with your child's school to determine which devices they may recommend based on the school system's curriculum requirements.

Administrators - please communicate with curriculum heads to determine if their programs have digital components that may have special device requirements.

Everyone - if you have questions, please check our miDevice page, under the Information Technology page, on the MCPSS Website (www.mcpss.com).

miDevice Guide



Bring Your Own Device

The Mobile County Public School System has created this publication as a guide for parents wishing for their child to participate in the miDevice (BYOD) initiative. The information in this document will hopefully enable parents to make informed decisions concerning the selection of a device for your child.



ANDROID

Android Devices

The Android operating system was first released to the public in the form of a cell phone in 2008. Since then, many companies have developed both phones and tablet computers that run the Android platform. Of course, your child may use a cell phone for the miDevice initiative, however, if your concern is the visibility of the screen size, then you may

also considering investigating tablets as well. If you are considering a for your child that runs Android, please make sure that the operating system is version 2.2 or newer.

**Remember...
Android Version 2.2 or newer!**

Sony	Motorola
Acer	Lenovo
Google	Samsung
LG	Toshiba
Nabi	Archos

The list to the right is by no means comprehensive of all the devices that run Android, but merely a suggested list to get you started in your device search.

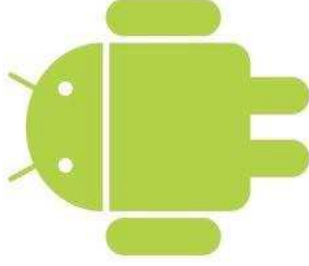
Known Android Issues

Android versions 1.0-2.1 do not support Adobe Flash Player. Flash is a product that allows viewing of multimedia

Known Android Issues (cont.)

content on mobile devices and computers....for example, content such as video, animations, games, and 3D graphics.

Unfortunately, many of the cheaper devices that are available from retail stores may be running an older version of Android (1.0-2.1). Please investigate these cheaper devices because the best bang for your pocket book may not prove to be the best device for your child.



Why do you need Adobe Flash?

Just as mentioned above, the flash player will allow your child to access digital content that could be in the form of videos or interactive content. In younger grades, some schools have purchased digital curriculum programs that have a digital component. Tumble Books, Abdo Digital, and Big Universe are a few examples--all which require Flash. These programs currently do not have Apps available, so the need for Flash on the device is required.

One specific device that we have encountered issues with is the Nabi and Nabi2. This device presents problems with the MommyDaddy Mode. In MommyDaddy Mode, parents use Android, version 4.1 (aka Ice Cream Sandwich) without the kid-safe environment that children cannot exit without a parental password. All of the accessible content is Nabi Mode must be preapproved (white listed) in MommyDaddy Mode.

Parents, if you purchase this device, send it to school unlocked, in MommyDaddy Mode. The device will be allowed on MCPSS's heavily filtered network, which restricts children from accessing inappropriate content on the internet.

Kindle Fire and Fire HD



The Kindle Fire is available in four different versions; each designed to suit your budget: Fire, Fire HD, Fire HD 8.9" screen, and the Fire HD 8.9" with 4G LTE.

The Kindle Fire series is a step above the original Kindle in that they have a web browser, which will allow full internet access. The Fire's the also run on the Android operating system.

Turn on Flash

- Go to homepage.
- Select WEB
- Tap the bottom of screen
- Select Menu - square horizontal lines
- Select Settings.
- Select the arrow next to Enable Flash and select "Always On".

Although the Fire does run Android, there have been issues with Adobe Flash. On the Kindle Fire, Flash Player is installed and there is an option to turn this feature on or off. Listed in the box above are the steps to enable Flash on your Kindle Fire.

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The original version of the Kindle, not the Kindle Fire, is a great device for reading books. However, it is not a web-enabled device. These devices WILL NOT enable the user to access the internet thought an internet browser!

