**Bring Your Own Technology**

**Frequently Asked Questions**

We have included the following FAQ to provide information about the use of personally owned digital devices.

**1. Why have a Bring Your Own Technology Program?**
The current reality of prevalent, affordable, personal technologies that can connect to school district provided wireless networks, will allow students to have greater access to digital resources.  BYOT personalizes learning for students as they use a device that they "own" to assist in the learning process.

**2. How will personally owned devices access wireless?**
The district has built a BYOT wireless network, separate from the district's network, that will allow students access to the Internet while maintaining security of the district's network. Users of this BYOT wireless network agree to abide by the BYOT Acceptable Use Policy.

**3. How does the district define a personally owned device?**
The school will allow any modern wireless device that can access a Wi-Fi network and utilize a Web browser to work with the BYOT wireless network. Certain technical restrictions will keep some devices from accessing the BYOT network.

**4. We already have a laptop; do I need to purchase a new one?**
No, if you already have a wireless device, your child may use it, as long as it meets some general technical specifications:

**Note that these are *minimum* specifications**.  Since new devices are constantly being introduced and existing devices are updated the only current technology recommendations are that the device should maintain at least 4 hours of battery life, support wireless 802.11g and should maintain current virus software and updates.   If you are purchasing a new device and wish to have your child to be able to use it for several years, a faster processor, additional memory, and 802.11n wireless are recommended for consideration.

**5. Our family currently does not own a device; do you have any purchasing recommendations?**
The district does not provide any recommendations other than the minimum requirements above.

**6. What accessories should the students have with their computing device?**
   **Suggested:**
* Headset or ear buds (for private listening)
* Protective portable computer sleeve or backpack with a computer compartment (to protect it better)
* USB Drive if appropriate for the device used
* High capacity battery (if available)

**Other suggestions**

* An extended warranty (if available, and affordable)
* Theft and hazard insurance (if available, and affordable)
* Network Filtering software at home

**7. Which grade levels/classrooms will be participating in the BYOT program?**
The decision on what grade level/courses will utilize student owned equipment will be a building/classroom level decision.

**8. What if my child's computing device is broken, lost, stolen or becomes infected with a virus at school?**
Personal devices are the responsibility of the owner.  The school/teacher is not responsible in the event the device is broken, lost, stolen or infected with a virus. Parents and students assume that risk if they send the device to school.

**9. What learning resources will be available for student-owned equipment?**
Any device that supports wireless networking will be able to access the school district's wireless, public network. The public wireless network provides fast, filtered internet access, but no direct access to internal network resources (printing, server files) for security reasons. A variety of other web-based tools such as the *Moodle* online learning system may be used by individual teachers with their classes.

**10. How will this impact my student if we do not have:**
**a) equipment**
**b) access at home?**
Teachers will not require that all students have a computing device. The district will continue to provide district owned devices that can be used by students during class time. Participation in BYOT is optional, and no student will be required to bring a device. Students without either computer or Internet access at home may gain access at the public library.

**11. Who will be responsible for care and maintenance of the laptop?**
District staff cannot provide any technology assistance to students on personal devices. All maintenance and care for personally owned devices is the responsibility of the owner.

**12. Will students need to have wireless Internet access at home?**
Home Internet access is not required for any student.

**13. When can my child bring their device to school?**
Each teacher will set expectations for when and how BYOT will be used in their classroom. Students will be expected to follow these expectations for use.

**14. Will the network be filtered?**
The wireless network is filtered for inappropriate content to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).