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Newtown Public Schools

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Grades K-8 Form

Student Wireless Device Agreement

Technology has changed the way we approach education as we prepare our students for future opportunities. We understand the many educational benefits of using technology in the classroom and the importance of the integration of technology in our curriculum. In an effort to encourage our students to continue to develop 21st century skills, students in Newtown Public Schools may now bring their own technology to school.

Use of devices to enhance learning in the classroom will be pursued when deemed appropriate at individual teacher discretion. Examples may include taking notes, maintaining planners, reading eBooks, accessing online resources, researching and collaborating with others using [Google Apps for Education \(GAFE\)](#), etc. It is suggested that students save their work to their [GAFE](#) accounts so they can access it from anywhere.

The use of personal devices by students is optional. Students who do not participate in BYOD will not be penalized. Alternate modes of participation will be available.

If a student wishes to use a personally owned electronic device in school, the student and parent/guardian must read and sign this agreement and return it to the school. Students participating in BYOD must also adhere to the pre-existing Acceptable Use Policy (BOE 8-300.) -

Definition of Device

For purposes of BYOD, “device” means a personal wireless and/or portable electronic device that may (but is not required to) offer capability to connect to wireless networks. The device must easily and comfortably permit a user to read electronic content and utilize productivity software.

Internet Access

Students **MUST** connect to the school’s filtered wireless network when accessing the Internet. Personal [Wi-Fi enabled](#) devices such as, but not limited to, smart phones/iPads/personal hot spots are not permitted to be used to access other Internet networks. Only the Internet service provided by the school may be accessed while in school.

Security and Damages

Responsibility to keep the device secure rests with the individual owner. Schools, including their staff or employees, are not liable for any device stolen or damaged on school grounds. If a device is stolen or damaged, it will be handled through the administrative office similar to other personal belongings that are impacted in similar situations (e.g., graphing calculators). It is recommended that students personalize their devices for easy identification and utilize protective cases.

BYOD Student Agreement (Elementary, Intermediate, & Middle School)

Use of technology in a school is a privilege which comes with great responsibility. Students will be allowed to use their laptops, tablets, smartphones or other electronic devices for educational purposes at school.

In addition, devices:

- must be in silent mode while in school
- must be used for instructional purposes at all times (Personal communications, such as phone calls, texting, instant messaging are not allowed during instructional times.)
- must not waste or abuse school resources through unauthorized system use (e.g. playing online games, downloading music, watching video broadcasts, participating in chat rooms, etc.)
- must be charged prior to bringing them to school and must be capable of running off battery while at school
- must have up-to-date virus protection (The NPS wireless network will not allow you to log-on with a device that does not have virus protection.)
- may, with teacher approval, be used to record, transmit or post images or video during school hours and/or activities such as field trips for educational purposes only
- may not be used during lunch in the cafeteria or between classes

It is NOT the responsibility of teachers or the staff of Newtown Public Schools to troubleshoot individual devices during the school day. Check your owner's manual for issues regarding connectivity.

The school reserves the right to inspect a student's personal device if there is a reason to believe that the student has violated the Responsible Use Agreement.

I understand and will abide by the above guidelines. I further understand that any violation may result in disciplinary action.

Signature of student: _____ Date: _____

Printed name of student: _____

Signature of parent/guardian: _____ Date: _____