

## **524.1 BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) POLICY**

### **I. PURPOSE**

Belle Plaine Schools believes that 21st Century instruction is necessary for 21st Century learning. Providing students with an environment that fosters and encourages this belief is part of our core values. All members of our learning community hold the responsibility to value technology and achieve technological proficiency to prepare our students for future jobs, which currently may not exist. Schools must challenge students with rigorous, personalized academic experiences, foster innovation and creativity, and embrace emerging technologies. In a 21st Century learning environment, students actively engage in a cohesively integrated curriculum, access information and apply it in solving authentic problems. Our students are living in a world where they have immediate access to information anytime and anywhere. Many students have personally owned devices in their pockets that can be used to allow them to learn in their own style and at their own pace. With digital learning, every student can access high quality and rigorous instruction in every subject, thereby, maximizing their opportunity for success in school and beyond. A decade ago this was just a dream. Today, it can be a reality.

### **II. ACCEPTABLE DEVICES**

For the purposes of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), “Device” means a privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic piece of equipment that includes laptops, netbooks, tablets/slates, iPod Touches, e-Readers, cell and smart phones. No gaming devices are allowed (to include: Nintendo DS, PlayStation Portable PSP, etc.) If you are uncertain whether or not your device meets the criteria to be used for Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), please see your building technology administrator.

### **III. ACCEPTABLE USES OF BYOD**

#### **1. INTERNET**

A student will be allowed to utilize the Internet on his or her own device per the District Acceptable Use Policy.

If a student does not have parental permission to use the Internet and/or online services, teachers will make a reasonable effort to provide an alternative assignment covering the same content standards contained in the Internet based instruction. In the event that equivalent instruction cannot be reasonably provided, an alternative assignment will be given to the student.

Staff is responsible for providing guidelines for Internet use by students.

Staff is responsible for supervising student access to the Internet and ensuring that access is being used for educational purposes and in accordance with Guidelines for Acceptable Use of District Information Systems. This is really no different than staff having been responsible that students were taking notes and not passing notes, or reading texts and not magazines, during class. The vehicle to the knowledge has simply changed.

2. EMAIL

Student users shall access or use only Belle Plaine Tiger Apps Gmail email accounts at school. All student email collaboration shall be done through district moderated accounts.

3. Synchronous and Asynchronous Online Communication and Social Networking Applications

Student users shall not access or use online synchronous or asynchronous communication applications such as email, chat, blogs, wikis or social networking Web site functions (i.e., discussion threads, document posting, RSS feeds, etc.) while at school. These restrictions apply unless: 1) this access and use takes place within a teacher moderated online environment; 2) the online activities are being used for legitimate instructional purposes; 3) the applications and/or functions are hosted on District servers behind the District firewall.

4. Communications and Access

Parents or guardians should instruct their student user(s) if there is material that they think would be inappropriate for them to access (in addition to material already blocked by the District firewall and content filter). The District fully expects that student users will follow these instructions. Students shall inform a teacher if they mistakenly access inappropriate information or content.

IV. BOYD FAQs – PARENTS/GUARDIANS

1. **My child does not have his/her own electronic communication device to bring to school. Will he/she be penalized or miss out on instruction?**

No, it is not mandatory for students to bring a device, even if they do own one. Use of personal electronic devices will be optional. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device!

2. **What if my child's device is stolen or damaged? What recourse can I take?**

Students bring electronic communication devices to school at their own risk, just like any other personal items. The school will not be held responsible if an electronic device or other item is lost, stolen or misplaced. Some devices have a device locator; it is recommended that you enable this feature if possible.

3. **Is it required that my child use the School wireless? Can they use their own 3G or 4G service?**  
Students with a personally owned device need to use the guest wireless network.
4. **My child is bringing a device to school for instructional purposes. Will they have access to things they normally do with district equipment?**  
Your child will have access to any of the web-based software the school currently uses (databases, library search tools, etc.) Software may run differently on different devices for varying reasons.
5. **As a parent am I required to add additional software (virus protection, filter, tracking device, etc.) to my child's device?**  
**Virus protection for PC's is required.** Device location software is not required but is always a good idea.
6. **How will my son's/daughter's device be used in the classroom?**  
Schools must challenge students with rigorous, personalized academic learning experiences that foster innovation and creativity. Students will engage in a cohesively integrated curriculum, access information, and apply it to solve authentic problems in a collaborative manner.

#### V. BYOD FAQs – STUDENTS

1. **I don't have my own electronic communication device to bring to school. Will I be penalized or miss out on instruction?**  
No, it is not mandatory for students to bring a device, even if they do own one. Use of personal electronic devices will be optional. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device!
2. **I have my device with me in class. How do I get on the Internet now?**  
Most devices will detect a wireless connection when you are near one. Most of the time devices will ask you if you would like to join the network when prompted, choose "ISD716guest" from the list. Once selected, you will be prompted to enter your email address and click "join."
3. **My device is not prompting me to choose a wireless network. Is there another way to connect?**  
In the settings menu of your device, there is usually an icon for a network, go to this icon and choose "ISD716guest" from the list of available wireless networks or prompt your device to look for wireless networks in range.
4. **I can't get my device to connect to the network. Can I get some help from someone?**  
Resources may be available to help you connect to the guest network in your school; however, you will need to consult with a network

administrator (building tech) for these resources. It is not the responsibility of your teacher or other staff to troubleshoot individual devices during the school day.

**5. I need to print the assignment I just completed, why is there no printer when I try this?**

Printers are networked differently in the school and will not be available when you log in to the ISD716guest network. Some network solutions include creating and sharing an online document (Google Doc), emailing the document to your teacher, saving the document to a flash drive or printing the document from home or another school computer. Keep in mind that using school printers in the classroom or other learning spaces is at the discretion of the teacher or other school administrator.

**6. My device was stolen when I brought it to school. Who should I contact about this?**

Belle Plaine Schools is not responsible for the theft of a device, nor are they responsible for any damage done to the device while at school. Any time a theft occurs, you should contact a school administrator to make him/her aware of the offense. Bringing your own devices to school can be useful; however, some risks are involved as well. It is always a good idea to record the device's serial number to have in case of theft.

**7. Why am I filtered on my own computer? Shouldn't I be able to see what I want to on my own device?**

Internet filtering is a requirement of all public schools. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires all network access to be filtered regardless of the device you use to access it while in a public school. You own your device, but the network you're using belongs to the school and Internet access will be filtered.

**8. Am I still held accountable for the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) I signed at the beginning of the school year even though this is my personal device?**

Yes, students using a personally owned device must have both the Acceptable Use Policy and the Device User Agreement signed.