

2012 - 2013

BYOD Policy

Blue Ridge ISD



It's a GREAT day to
Be a Blue Ridge
TIGER!

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Purpose

Providing students and staff with a 21st century digital learning environment is part of the Blue Ridge ISD core values. BRISD is dedicated to providing all students an engaging and rigorous academic experience while preparing our students to be collaborators, effective communicators, and critical problem solvers in a diverse and globalized society. We are committed to implementing educational programs, strategies, and essential opportunities to encourage students to become productive members of society. The highest levels of quality instruction and strategies will be provided in order to adequately prepare students to face the challenges of the future.










In order to effectively enhance the educational process for students BRISD will allow students to *bring their own technology devices* (laptops, smart phones, eReaders, iPads, iPods, tablets, etc.) to use at specified times during the school day. Use of devices to enhance learning in the classroom will be pursued when deemed appropriate at individual teacher discretion. With teacher approval, students may use their devices in the classroom to access and save information from the Internet, collaborate with other learners, and utilize the productivity tools available to them through various technology avenues.

Acceptable Use/Responsible Use Policy (AUP)

Blue Ridge ISD provides students with access to the District's electronic communications system for educational purposes. The electronic communications system is defined as the District's network, servers, computers, mobile devices, peripherals, applications, databases, online resources, Internet access, email, and any other technologies designated for use by students. With this educational opportunity comes responsibility.

While the District uses filtering technology and protection measures to restrict access to inappropriate material, it is not possible to absolutely prevent such access. It will be each student's responsibility to follow the rules for appropriate and responsible use. Access to the Blue Ridge ISD network is a privilege and administrators and faculty may review files and messages to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are acting responsibly.

Standards of Acceptable/Responsible Use

-  The District may review files and communications to maintain system integrity and insure that users are using the system responsibly. Users should not expect that files stored on district servers will always be private.
-  Students may not create, publish, submit, or display any materials/media that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal. Likewise, any instance of such should be reported immediately to the classroom teacher.
-  Students are responsible at all times for their use of the District's electronic communication system and must assume personal responsibility to behave ethically and responsibly, even when or if technology provides them the freedom to do otherwise.
-  Students may not use their devices, electronic platforms, social media, etc to bully, harass, insult, etc any other individual.
-  Students must not access, modify, download, or install computer programs, files, or information belonging to others.
-  Students must not waste or abuse school resources through unauthorized system use (e.g. playing online games, downloading music, watching video broadcasts, etc).
-  Technology, including electronic communication, should be used for appropriate educational purposes only and should be consistent with the educational objectives of Blue Ridge ISD as instructed by the classroom teacher.
-  If a student encounters an inappropriate site or image, he or she must immediately minimize the program and inform the teacher.
-  Students shall adhere to all laws and statutes related to issues of copyright or plagiarism.


Violation of any of these standards may result in suspension of computer use, internet privileges, and/or other disciplinary action as deemed necessary by the campus administration and the student code of conduct.


Wireless Information

When a student brings his/her own technology device to a school campus, it is mandatory the device utilize the BRISD wireless network. For example, a Blue Ridge High student will choose the “public” wireless ID, and signs in using his/her BRISD username and password to browse the Internet. By logging into the BRISD wireless network, they are accepting the terms of the Blue Ridge ISD Student Acceptable/Responsible Use Policy. Once on the BRISD wireless network, all users will have filtered Internet access just as they would on a district owned device.

Frequently Asked Questions


Students

 Q: I brought my device to school but my teacher says I can't use it in class. Can I without his/her permission?

 A: No, you may not utilize your device unless instructed to do so by the classroom teacher. Ultimate determining authority will be the classroom teacher. He or she will determine the instructional necessity and allow use when appropriate.


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 Q: What if my device is stolen or damaged. What recourse can I take?

 A: When students bring electronic devices to school, it is at their own risk, just like any other personal item. The District will not be responsible if an electronic device or other item is lost, stolen, or misplaced and that includes items that are confiscated due to misuse.

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 Q: I do not own an electronic device. Will I be penalized or miss out on instruction?

 A: No. It is not mandatory that students bring a device, even if they own one. When electronic devices are used to enhance learning in the classroom, students without a personal device will be provided access to an appropriate district owned digital device. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for an entire class even if only a handful of students have a device.


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 Q: When can I use my device?

 A:


Appropriate Locations/Times for Use	Inappropriate Locations/Times for Use
 During Lunch (MS/HS Only – attendance incentive)  During class when my teacher designates use for learning	 Before/After School during arrival/dismissal  Any athletic or PE locker room  Any restroom facility  Office areas (nurse, principal office, etc)  During class without teacher permission  During transition times/in the hallways  During Lunch (elementary only)


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 Q: I would like to save my work in a folder on the BRISD network so I can access it later. Why can't I do this?


 A: You are on the Public/Guest Network. You cannot access the district network. You will need to save your work in another place. Some options include a flash drive, your own hard drive, a digital locker/storage location such as dropbox, google drive, etc.


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 Q: Why am I filtered on my own computer? Shouldn't I be able to see what I want to on my own tool?

 A: Student 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 tool you use to access it while in a public school. Your laptop, phone, or tablet is the device, the network you are using while at school belongs to BRISD and will be filtered.

Staff

 Q: My classroom is not conducive to student owned technology, am I required to allow my students to access their technology tools in the classroom?

 A: No. Although we encourage teachers to leverage the student owned technology tools in their classroom for learning, there is no requirement of teachers to allow this. You are in charge of the way your class functions and the rules that apply.

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🐾 Q: Some of my students cannot access the network on their laptops or phones. I don't have time in a class period to help them with this. Should I put in a help request or call the technology department?

🐾 A: No. Students who cannot access the BRISD guest network or who may have technical issues with their technology tool need to take care of this issue by working with their user's manual that came with the device out of the classroom. These are not BRISD devices and the district is not allocating resources at this time to troubleshoot issues. You are welcome to help if you choose, but it is not a staff member's responsibility to ensure that student owned technology is functioning properly.

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🐾 Q: I have students on my campus who are accessing the Internet using their provider's data plan (AT&T, Sprint, Verizon, etc) on their smart phones, laptops, tablets, hence bypassing the filter. Is this a violation of the student AUP?


🐾 A: This is not an AUP violation because the student is not bypassing the filter on the BRISD network, but instead using a provider's data plan. However, depending on the student's use, this could be a student code of conduct violation.


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🐾 Q: I have my own laptop, smart phone, or tablet. I would like to utilize these tools at work. Does this new plan include campus staff?


🐾 A: Yes. Campus staff can also access the public/guest network. Keep in mind that the public/guest network is going to be filtered at the student level for everyone accessing it. Campus printers will not be accessible with your own device as well. You can submit a tech request through google docs requesting your device's wi-fi address be added so you have more access.


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 Q: Should I contact the technology department if one of my student's devices is damaged or stolen?


 A: No. Any theft issues should be handled as you normally would on your campus. BRISD is not responsible for any damage or theft of student owned technology tools. It would be good to remind students to keep a record of the device's serial number just in case a theft occurs.


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 Q: One of my students was using his laptop to bully another student on campus. Should I call the district technology department concerning this problem?


 A: No. Any disciplinary infractions that occur from using technology tools should be referred to a campus administrator. This would be a student code of conduct issue.


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 Q: Will students have access to any common software packages via the public or guest network access?


 A: Not at this time. We will continue to evaluate the pilot and the needs for the future and make changes based on campus recommendations.


Parents

 Q: My child is bringing his iPad to school for instructional purposes. Will he have access to things he normally does with district equipment?


 A: Your child will have access to any of the web based software currently used. Software may run differently on different devices for varying reasons. You should consult your owner's manual for software limitations. (Ex. iPads cannot run software requiring Flash Player).


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 Q: As a parent, am I required to add additional software (virus protection, filter, tracking device, etc) to my child's technology tool?


 A: No. Currently we are not requiring any additional software for school use. Virus protection is always advised, but not required to participate in the pilot. A product called Absolute Software can be installed on the device to track the location in case of theft. While on the BRISD public/guest network, students will be monitored through the district's filter, so there is no need to additional filtering software.

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 Q: I have read the terms of service and I do not wish to have my child accessing the internet using her own laptop. I would like to allow her to continue using her computer for productivity but not the internet. Is this allowable on this pilot plan?


 A: Yes, your child may choose not to accept the terms of use; however, the rules outlined in the AUP still apply for technology use of any kind (internet or other). Also, it is not the responsibility of campus staff to ensure she has not accessed the Web on her own technology device. Damage or theft is still the responsibility of the owner.


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 Q: I am the PTO President at my child's campus. We hold meetings at night. Will we have access to the BRISD public/guest network after school hours for meetings?


 A: Yes. The public/guest network will be accessible after school hours.


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 Q: If my child's laptop is lost, damaged, or stolen what recourse can I take?


 A: The district is not responsible for any damage or theft of student owned equipment. Installing tracking software like Absolute Software can help locate the equipment if it is lost or stolen, and keeping track of the device' serial numbers, model and type will be helpful as well.

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 Q: What are the campus/classroom rules for using student owned devices including phones?

 A: Teachers make the final decision for any tools used in the classroom; student owned equipment would be no different. It will be up to the individual teachers to communicate their expectations to parents and students. Contact your child's teachers for his/her expectations.

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 Q: Will my child have access to communication tools like email or message boards while on the BRISD public/guest network?

 A: Yes, to some extent.

Blue Ridge ISD Information

Policy Changes

The Blue Ridge ISD “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) Policy is a continual work in progress. The district reserves the right to add, delete, and/or change policy at any time during the instructional school year. These changes will be communicated to students, parents, and staff via newsletters, the Districts website, social media, written communication sent home with students, etc. The responsibility for staying up-to-date on the policy and/or any changes remains that of the user.

Responsible Party

The end user remains the “Responsible Party” throughout the process of

1. BYOD: Bring your own device,
2. Accessing the public/guest network at BRISD, and/or
3. Any other process encountered through the BYOD Process.