

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Wireless Access and Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Pilot 2014-2015

Introduction

“Already, technology is reshaping higher education in the U.S., where an explosion in online learning has enabled millions of adults to pursue degrees or certificates across a myriad of fields. This growth has been seen across for-profit, state, and private institutions that are seeking new revenue and growth opportunities. The building blocks are also present at the primary and secondary levels, where we have seen a proliferation of interactive whiteboards, computers, and other technologies in classrooms—and where today’s tech-savvy students are often armed with personal laptops, smartphones, and other devices.”

Unleashing the Potential of Technology in Education
The Boston Consulting Group, 2011

In Moore, there has been a proliferation of teachers and learners beginning to move to digital learning materials. This change is best seen in lesson presentations where teacher and student are digitally interactive on interactive boards throughout our district. This proliferation to use technology is a catalyst to transform learning and teaching. Technology is allowing teachers to have instant access to intertwine instructional strategies that reach globally. Technology has allowed the delivery of curriculum to become more interactive, provide instant feedback for struggling students, and measured instruction suited for individual student needs.

Moore’s plan is to leverage the technology we have available to restructure the school day and how teachers and students are engaged. The Wireless Access and BYOT pilot is the latest effort by the district to facilitate new learning endeavors of the 21st Century.

Moore Public Schools is committed to helping students and teachers take advantage of relevant technology to further the educational and research mission of the district. Become successful, technologically-fluent digital citizens who live safely and civilly in an increasingly digital world. As a part of this plan, we will implement the Wireless Access and BYOT plan. We expect students to have just-in-time access to resources that will enhance classroom learning, read and annotate course content electronically, create digital presentations, and collaborate with other students. MPS is planning implementation of wireless access at all schools within the next couple of years.

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Plan

The Wireless Access and *Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)* Pilot Project at a MPS School will begin during the fall of 2014. Beginning in September, students at the pilot school will be able to bring personal digital devices to school that support learning. Wireless access will allow students and teachers to use online textbooks, internet sites, and collaboration tools in the same ways they are used in the workplace to accomplish tasks. Internet access is filtered as with MPS owned devices.

Accessing the wireless network

Prior to accessing the wireless network, students and parents/guardians will need to:

1. **Read the Technology Responsible Use Agreement and sign the agreement.**
2. **Read the Memorial Personal Device User Guideline and sign the agreement.**
3. **Return the signed agreement as instructed by your teacher.**

Technology Tips for Parents

Prior to allowing personally owned technology to be taken to school it is recommended that:

1. The make, model and serial number of the device be recorded and stored in a secure location.
2. Passwords are set on the device. Make sure the password is recorded and stored some place more than one family member can access.
3. Enable the "Find My Device" feature, or one similar. This will allow the family to 'wipe' all content, personal ID's etc. from the device in the event of theft.
4. Wi-Fi is enabled.
5. Locate all User Manuals, device instructions, and/or access to device 'Support Centers'. If possible, bookmark these locations on the device.
6. The purchase of a device is a personal choice. The device must be able to connect wirelessly to the available MPS wireless network.

All students' personal devices are required to use the school's wireless network. No outside data services may be used while on school property or at school events 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 used to access the network while in a public school. While on school property, students are not allowed to access personal broadband service for CIPA reasons. The wireless network available to staff and students through which they can access the Internet allows the same level of access as if they were to use a school-owned device.

BYOT ACCEPTABLE USE

Participants are expected to sign a class roster to verify they understand the *MPS Technology Responsible Use Policy and the WHS agreement* prior to bringing a personal device to school.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

STUDENTS

I have turned in my signed the MPS Technology Responsible Use Policy and the WHS agreement. Can I start bringing my device to school?

Yes, by signing the MPS Technology Responsible Use Policy and the WHS agreement you have secured permission to participate in BYOT.

I have my laptop with me in class. How do I get on the internet now?

Most smart devices will detect a wireless connection when you are near one. Most of the time your technology device will ask if you would like to join the network. When prompted, choose “MPSBYOD” network from the list. Once you choose this network, you will log in using your network login and the password you have set. You will be prompted to accept the terms of service. Read this carefully, so that you know what should be expected.

My laptop 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 “MPSBYOD” from the list or prompt your computer to look for wireless networks in range. Always consult your tool’s owner’s manual or other available support for exact directions to access a wireless network.

I brought my iPad to school to use in the classroom, but my teacher said I couldn’t use it in her classroom. Can I still use it?

The teacher in the classroom has the final say on procedures in the classroom. If he or she asks you not to use your technology tool at a particular time, then you must follow those directions

I just can’t get my laptop to connect to the network. Can I get some help from someone?

Check your owner’s manual or other support resources for issues concerning connectivity. Frequently peers will have similar devices and will be able to support each other. Classroom time will be focused on instruction, so your teacher will not be able to help you. BYOT participants will need to test their ability to connect to the network outside of instructional time.

I need to save my work into my home directory on the WHS network. Why can’t I access this resource?

You are on the wireless network. It is not the same as the network you would normally access from a campus computer. You will not see your home folder, so you will need to save your work in another place like a flash drive, your own hard drive, your Google apps account or any cloud based storage.

I need to print the spreadsheet I just created, why is there no printer listed when I try this?

Printers will **NOT** be available when you login to the wireless network.

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

Bringing your own technology tools 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 in case of theft. MPS is not responsible for the theft of a device nor are we responsible for any damage done to the device while at school. Any time a theft occurs, you should contact a school administrator and the SRO to make them aware of the offense.

Why am I filtered on my own computer? Shouldn’t I be able to see what I want to on my own device?

Student filtering is a federal requirement of all public schools. The Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires all internet access to be filtered, regardless of the device you use to access it while in a public school. The network you are using while at school belongs to Moore Public Schools and will be filtered.

When can the students use their devices?

Devices must be used at appropriate times and locations *in accordance with teacher instruction*. A device must not be a distraction or disruption for the student or others. Student’s use devices of in unauthorized locations or during unauthorized times will be subject to disciplinary action.

Specific guidelines will be at the discretion of building administration.

Can I record teachers or classmates (audio or video)?

Unauthorized audio or video recording is prohibited. Voice, video, and image capture applications may only be used with prior teacher permission and for a specific instructional purpose. See district policy on student imagery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

STAFF

My classroom is not conducive to student owned technology. Am I required to allow my students to access their technology tools in the classroom?

MPS encourages teachers to leverage student owned technology tools in their classroom for learning and the needs of the student. The design of the lesson should be used to determine the best use of student provided technology and the rules that apply. Student needs may also determine the use of the device. For example, a student may use the device for note taking to support their personal learning while in the classroom.

Can I require a student to purchase a specific software program or applications for his or her device?

No. MPS does not provide or require apps or software for personally owned devices. Classroom lessons will be tailored for the technology to which all students have access

When can the students use their devices?

Devices must be used at appropriate times and locations *in accordance with building guidelines and teacher instruction*. A device must not be a distraction or disruption for the student or others. Student's use devices of in unauthorized locations or during unauthorized times will be subject to disciplinary action.

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 help desk?

No. Students who cannot access the MPS wireless 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 or other available support that came with the device outside of class time. Students with similar devices may consult to resolve a problem. These are not MPS devices and the district is not allocating additional 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.

I have my own laptop and a smart phone. I would like to utilize these tools at work. Does this new plan include campus staff?

Yes. Campus staff can also access the wireless network for work related activities. Keep in mind that the wireless network will be filtered. Campus printers will not be accessible from personal devices.

One of my students was using his laptop to bully another student on campus. How do I handle this?

Answer: Any disciplinary infractions that occur from using technology tools should be referred to a campus administrator.

What shall I do if one of my student's devices is damaged or stolen?

Any theft issues should be handled as you normally would on your campus. MPS 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. Staff members are encouraged to practice reasonable precautions such as locking empty classrooms when devices are left there.

Can a student record teachers or classmates (audio or video)?

Unauthorized audio or video recording is prohibited. Voice, video, and image capture applications may only be used with prior teacher permission and for a specific instructional purpose. See district policy on student imagery.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PARENTS

What types of computing devices may my child bring to school?

Students may use devices that fall into the following categories: (1) laptops, (2) netbooks, (3) tablets, and (4) e-Readers. In some instances, teachers may allow cell phones/smartphones to be used.

Will a student be at a disadvantage if they don't have a personal computing device when they come to school next fall?

No. The student's learning experience or academic performance will not be affected because he or she does not have an Internet-connected device to bring to school. The curriculum will remain the same.

Can a teacher require a student to purchase a specific software program or applications for his or her device?

No. MPS does not provide or require apps or software for personally owned devices. Classroom lessons will be tailored for the technology to which all students have access. If possible, a student may choose to complete the same lesson on their personal device.

My son is taking his iPad to school for instructional purposes. Will he have access to things he normally does with district equipment?

Your son will have access to any of the web based software school campuses currently use (databases, library search tools, Google apps suite of tools etc.). Software may run differently on different devices for varying reasons. You should consult your owner's manual or other support materials provided with the device for software limitations. (Ex. iPads cannot run software requiring Flash Player.)

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

No. Currently we are not requiring any additional software for school use. Virus protection is always advised, but not required. While on the MPS wireless network, students will be monitored through the district's filter, so there is no need for additional filtering software.

I have read the terms of service and I do not wish to have my student accessing the internet using their own laptop. Is this allowable in this plan?

Your student is not required to bring a device to school. The school will provide whenever possible a district owned device for use within the class period as needed for instructional purposes at the discretion of the teacher.

If my daughter's laptop is stolen or damaged, what recourse can I take?

The district is not responsible for any damage or theft of student owned equipment. Keeping track of the device's serial number, model and type at home is suggested. Theft or vandalism of any kind should be reported immediately to a campus administrator and SRO to ensure appropriate steps are taken.

Will there be "charging stations" so my child's electronic device can be recharged?

We anticipate that not every class will be using an electronic device in a lesson every day. Considering today's electronic device battery technology, the device's battery charge should be sufficient for lessons requiring use of the device throughout the day. "Charging stations" will not be provided.

Will the family need to have Internet access at home?

No. It would be helpful, however, to have some form of Internet access (wired or wireless) in order for a child to make full use of school resources from home, as well the multitude of resources available on the World Wide Web. But, it is not required in order for a child to use a personal computing device at school.

Will parents have access to the guest network after school hours for various school meetings or events?

No, not at this time