



SECTION 1000: STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

POLICY 1090: Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)

- *Date Adopted: June 19, 2024*
 - *Date Adopted: November 28, 2018*
 - *Date Adopted: March 13, 2013*
-

POLICY STATEMENT

Coast Mountains School District 82 (CMSD) strives to inspire success, confidence and hope in each student. As aspiring leaders in the use of technology, we encourage creative and innovative approaches, with opportunities for personalized student learning using technologies that are both safe and developmentally appropriate, all the while promoting a strong sense of digital citizenship among learners. To achieve this outcome and maximize student learning, CMSD will allow personal digital devices on school grounds and on its guest network with clearly defined criteria for use.

DEFINITION

“Personal digital devices” are defined as those electronic devices that can be used to communicate or to access the internet, including but not limited to cell phones, tablets, smart watches, gaming devices and electronic toys.

RATIONALE

Technology, including personal digital devices like cell phones, can support a successful platform for learning when used intentionally and responsibly. However, the use of technology can be harmful to children and youth, causing distractions in the learning environment, reducing academic performance and negatively impacting mental health. It is important that all students have access to technology that is age and developmentally appropriate. Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) means students bring their own personal digital devices to school for educational purposes, in effect supplementing the technological resources available to support learning.

POLICY

Personal digital devices are permitted on the grounds of all CMSD schools and offices.

Individuals choosing to access the CMSD wireless network on their personal digital device are required to accept the terms of use prior to connecting.

CMSD is providing wireless connectivity as a student service and offers no guarantees that any use of the wireless connection is in any way secure, or that any privacy can be protected when using this wireless connection.

Use of the CMSD-BYOT wireless network is entirely at the risk of the user, and CMSD is not responsible for any loss of any information that may arise from the use of the wireless connection, or for any loss, injury or damages resulting from the use of the wireless connection.

The use of personal digital devices by students is optional, and students who do not participate in BYOT will not be penalized or disadvantaged.

In addition to the rules outlined below, students will be expected to comply with all class and school rules while using personal digital devices.

Policy Expectations:

- For students in Kindergarten through Grade 6, personal digital devices must be powered off and safely stored during the entire school day from the time the student arrives on school grounds until they leave school grounds.
- Students in Kindergarten through Grade 6 may only use personal digital devices during the school day for educational purposes and only with the permission and under the direct supervision of a teacher or other staff member.
- For students in Grades 7 through 12, personal digital devices must be powered off and safely stored during instructional time, unless being used for educational purposes with the permission and under the direct supervision of a teacher or other staff member. Students in these grades may use personal digital devices during the school day outside of instructional time, for example, before school begins, between classes or during the lunch break.
- Individual students at any grade level with documented and verified needs may work with the School Based Team to develop an exemption plan that includes the use of a personal digital device for full inclusion. Final approval of any plan must be given by the School Principal, and the approved plan will then be shared with appropriate staff members.



Policy Expectations: *(continued)*

- Students and parents/guardians participating in the BYOT must adhere to the School Code of Conduct and all Board Policies and Procedures, particularly the Internet Acceptable Use.
- Students may not use school or district-owned devices, or personal digital devices, to record, transmit, or post photographic images, video or audio recording of a person on the school property during school hours or during school activities, unless otherwise allowed by a teacher.
- Students not adhering to these expectations will be subject to the School Code of Conduct for inappropriate use of technology.

Students and Parents/Guardians acknowledge that:

- CMSD is authorized to collect and examine any device that is suspected of causing technology problems or was the source of an attack or virus infection.
- Students and parents/guardians should be aware that devices are subject to search by school administrators if the device is suspected of a violation of the School Code of Conduct.

Lost, Stolen or Damaged Devices:

Each user is responsible for their own personal digital device and should use it responsibly and appropriately. The school district takes no responsibility for stolen, lost, or damaged devices, including lost or corrupted data on those devices.

The school district is not responsible for any possible device charges to a student's account that might be incurred during approved school-related use.

Equity of Access a Key Priority:

It is recognized that not all parents/guardians can or want to send their child to school with a personal digital device. In this case, schools will ensure devices and other technology are available for students to use at school and all students will have access to age and developmentally appropriate technology in their classrooms. Used collaboratively technology can transform learning.