

BYOD - BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

## BYOD Initiative

Colonial School District is embarking on a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) initiative. We are beginning in select classrooms, but will eventually expand to the entire district.

Instead of banning student devices, Colonial is choosing to capitalize on the availability of technology in the students' hands as educational tools. Students will be allowed to bring their own iPad, Kindle Fire, iPod, laptop, or Smart phone that is listed on the approved devices list to enhance the educational learning environment.

In developing our plan to teach 21st century skills, we have set goals and objectives that will focus around the enhancement of student learning and aligning our technology policies and instructional policies into one.

Establishing this new environment for such learning takes careful planning and consideration. We hope the information in this brochure provides you with useful information, advice, and best practices. This brochure is not meant to be "all inclusive" and will remain a work in progress as the use of personal devices evolves.

The use and availability of these devices along with district identified applications will enable our students to become technology literate along with gaining the knowledge and skills needed to work in a 21st century environment.

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## What is BYOD?

"Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) is simply a program where staff and students can bring their own personal computing devices to school and connect them to the school's wireless network to access the Internet.

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, which, maximizes their opportunity for success in school and beyond.

A decade ago this was just a dream. Today, it can be a reality.

Online collaboration, access to resources, and effective use of the Internet are increasingly becoming essential skills that students need to meet the challenges of today's classroom and tomorrow's work place.

Mobile devices give students opportunities to choose when, how, and where they want to learn. They can assume the responsibility for directing their learning while guided by the classroom teacher.

### What is a BYO Device?

Student can bring the following devices for use in the classroom:

- laptop computers
- netbook computers
- tablets
- eReaders
- iPod Touch / Android Devices
- cell phones

- Visit our website for more information

<http://www.colonial.k12.de.us/BYOD>

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## The benefits of BYOD?

1. Technology can help change the way instruction takes place.
2. Students have access to their technology, no matter where they are.
3. Reduced learning curve since students are familiar with their technology.
4. Provides guidance and mentorship for responsible use of technology.

### Why Change?

In 2010, the U.S. Department of Education introduced the National Education Technology Plan.

The plan calls for “applying advanced technologies used in our daily personal and professional lives to our entire education system to improve student learning, accelerate and scale up the adoption of effective practices and use data and information for continuous improvement.”

## Guidelines

In order to bring a device to school, the below items must be completed:

- Parent/Student Usage Agreement must be signed and filed with the school.
- Personally owned devices will be used for only educational purposes as determined by teacher.
- Students will be held accountable for following the Acceptable Use Policy from the district.
- Visit our website for more information <http://www.colonial.k12.de.us/BYOD>

### FAQ Overview

#### For Students:

*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. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device!

*I am bringing a device to school for instructional purposes. Will I have access to things they normally do with district equipment?*

Yes, BYOD will start out by supplementing the school district's ongoing and current technologies.

*I have my device with me in class. How do I get on the Internet?*

The school district's wireless network will be open for BYO Devices to connect to the internet. Students

connecting to the school's wireless network must have completed and signed a Parent/Student Usage Agreement and AUP.

*Are student and teachers still bound to district technology policies and guidelines if they bring devices in to use at school?*

Yes. The same policies and guidelines apply to personal computing devices as to district-purchased computers and devices.

*What software will need to be purchased for BYOD?*

No software needs to be purchased. The district has moved to web-based applications that students can access from their devices.

#### For Parents:

*Who pays for the technology brought to school?*

These devices are owned by and remain property of the student/family.

*Who is responsible for repairs or updating to personal computing devices?*

Students and/or their families are responsible for their personal computing devices at all times. Colonial School District does not have the technology support staff to repair or update personal computing devices.

*Who is responsible for damage, loss, or theft of devices your child brings to school?*

Families must stress the responsibilities their children have when bringing their own computing devices to school. And devices students bring to school are their sole responsibility.

*Will the family need to have Internet access at home?*

No, however, it would be helpful, to have some form of Internet access (wired or wireless) in order for a student 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 student to use a personal computing device at school.

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