

## Students

**SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY/BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)**

The Board of Education seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment for students and staff. Advances in technology have made it possible to expand the learning environment beyond traditional classroom boundaries. Using personal electronic devices during instruction time can enable students to explore new concepts, personalize their learning experience and expand their global learning opportunities. Additionally, the use of personal technology devices is everywhere in today's society, and standards for students' use during non-instructional time should adapt to this change. This policy defines the use of personal technology during instructional and non-instructional times and reinforces the standard that all use, regardless of its purpose, must follow the guidelines as outlined in the student Required Use Policy RUP (#7315) and the district Code of Conduct, and the Dignity for All Students Act.

**Definition**

For purposes of BYOD, "device" means a privately owned wireless and/or portable electronic handheld equipment that includes but is not limited to: existing and emerging mobile communication systems and smart technologies, such as cellular phones, Blackberries, SMART phones, iPhones and iPods, portable internet devices and such as Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), MP3 players, laptops, iPads, tablets, Kindle, Nook, netbooks and portable storage devices as well as any device with similar capabilities. Personal technology includes all existing and emerging technology devices that can take photographs, record or play audio or video, input text, upload and download media, connect to or receive information from the Internet, and transmit or receive messages, telephone calls or images.

**Internet**

Schalmont offers a filtered public Wi-Fi in all schools. Only the filtered internet gateway provided by the district may be accessed while on campus. Personal connective devices are not permitted to be used to access outside internet sources at any time.

**Security and Damages**

Responsibility to keep the device secure rests with the individual owner. Schalmont Central School District is not liable for any device stolen or damages on campus. If a device is stolen or damaged, it will be handled through the administrative offices similar to how other personal artifacts might be impacted in similar situations. It is recommended that decals or other custom touches be used to physically identify your device from others. Additionally, protective cases for devices are encouraged.

**Liability**

The District shall not be liable for the loss, damage, misuse or theft of any personal technology brought to school. The District reserves the right to monitor, inspect and/or confiscate personal technology when administration has reasonable suspicion to believe that a violation of school policy or criminal law has occurred.

**Permission**

Students will not be permitted to use personal technology devices in school or at school functions until they have reviewed the Required Use Policy (RUP), application sections of the *Code of Conduct* and associated technology guidelines and signed the *Student Use of Personal Technology Permission Form* with their parents or guardians. (#7361F)

(Continued)

## Students

**SUBJECT: STUDENT USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY/BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)****Permission (cont'd)**

Students must follow the guidelines for use set out in the District Code of Conduct and the RUP at all times. All users of the district's computer network and the filtered Internet must understand that use is a privilege, not a right, and that entails responsibility. The district reserves the right to control access to the Internet for all users of its computer and network. The district may either allow or prohibit certain students in online activity or access to specific websites. All users shall not have any expectation of privacy in using the computer network. Any device may not be used to record, transmit or post photographic images or video a person, or persons on campus during school activities/hours.

When respected, technology as an educational material will benefit the learning environment as a whole. Consequences for misuse will follow guidelines in the district's *Code of Conduct*. It is unacceptable to use any device for anything that is disruptive to the educational process.

**Instructional Uses**

Instructional purposes include, but are not limited to, approved classroom activities, research, college admissions activities, career development, communication with experts, homework and other activities as deemed appropriate by school staff. Personal technology use by students is permitted during the school day for educational purposes and/or in approved locations only. Students are expected to act responsibly and thoughtfully when using technology resources. Students bear the burden of responsibility to inquire with school staff, administrators and/or teachers when they are unsure of the permissibility of a particular use of technology prior to engaging in such use. Teachers or staff members will indicate when and if classroom use is acceptable.

**Non-Instructional Uses**

Appropriate use of personal technology during the non-instructional time is also allowed if students follow the guidelines in the RUP and Code of Conduct. Non-instructional use includes texting, calling and otherwise communicating with others during free periods and in common areas of the school building such as hallways, cafeteria, student halls, buses and student lounges and cafes. Other non-instructional uses may include such things as Internet searches, reading, listening to music, and watching videos. The use during non-instructional time must be conducted in a safe and unobtrusive manner. Devices must be in silent mode to avoid disrupting others.

**Prohibition During State Assessments**

All students are prohibited from bringing electronic devices into a classroom or any other location where a New York State assessment is being administered. Test proctors, test monitors, and school officials shall have the right to collect prohibited electronic devices prior to the start of the test and hold them while the test is being administered, including break periods. Admission to any assessment will be denied to any student who refuses to relinquish a prohibited device. Students with disabilities may use certain devices if the device is specified in that student's IEP or 504 plan or a student has provided medical documentation that they require the device during testing.

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