

USD 434-Santa Fe Trail

Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices at School

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) and Protocol for the Use of Technology in the Schools

- Technology use is everywhere in our world today. The BOE believes schools should play a role in teaching students to use technology appropriately. Rather than banning the devices that district students use in their daily lives, we encourage them to bring their own technology to campus. These are the same devices they will soon come to rely on in their future professional lives. It is important to guide them in developing the skills needed to be productive digital citizens.

Definition of “Device”

- A device, as part of this protocol, is a piece of privately owned and/or portable electronic, handheld technology that includes emerging mobile communication systems and smart technologies, laptops and netbooks. Additionally, this includes any technology that can be used for wireless Internet access, word processing, image capture/recording, sound recording, and information transmitting, receiving and storing.

Internet

- The only internet gateway that may be accessed while in the District Public Schools is the one provided by the District. Any device brought to the District will not be permitted to use outside internet sources.

Personal internet connective devices, such as but not limited to cell phones/cell network adapters, are not permitted to be used to access outside internet sources at any time.

Software

- Many software packages are now available as web browser applications. This negates the need to have required programs loaded onto student computers. Students can access what they will need through any web browser. Therefore, there is no required software necessary to take part in the Bring Your Own Device program.

Security and Damages

- Responsibility to keep the device secure rests with the individual owner. The Santa Fe Trail School District is not liable for any device stolen or damaged on school owned or operated property or at a school sponsored activity, program, or event. If a device is stolen or damaged, it will be handled through the administrative office as other personal items that are stolen or damaged. It is recommended that skins, decals, and other custom touches be used to physically identify a student's device from others. Additionally, protective cases for technology are encouraged.

Bring Your Own Device/Technology

- The use of technology to provide educational material is not a necessity but a privilege. A student does not have the right to use his/her electronic device while at school. When abused, privileges will be taken away. When respected, the devices will benefit the learning environment as a whole.

Students and parents/guardians participating in the Bring Your Own Device/Technology program must adhere to all applicable Board policies, particularly the USD 434 Technology/Computer Acceptable Use Policy, in the use of these devices at school, on district owned or operated property, in school vehicles, and at school sponsored activities, programs, and events. Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning appropriate use of any electronic device.

Students violating the provisions of this policy are subject to disciplinary action, including losing the privilege of bringing the device onto school property, detention, suspension, or expulsion. In addition, an administrator may confiscate the devices, which shall only be returned to the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). Where appropriate, law enforcement may be contacted.

When the language of this policy is found to be in conflict with the terms of any district student's Section 504 or Individualized Education Plan, the terms of the student's individualized plan shall control.

The use of these devices, as with any personally owned device, is strictly up to the teacher.

For district/state testing only district devices will be used.