

# Gadsden City Schools

## Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy

The goal of BYOD programs is to expand opportunities for 21<sup>st</sup> C learning. However, using personally owned devices at school is a privilege, not a right. This privilege may be revoked for the student body as a whole or for students individually at the discretion of the administration. Therefore, it is important that students use their devices responsibly, respect the property of others, and demonstrate that this use benefits them academically and helps them develop into good digital citizens.

### **Devices Permitted:**

The following devices are permitted. Items may be added or deleted at the discretion of the school administration.

- Laptops, netbooks, Chromebooks
- Tablets (iPad, Xoom, Galaxy, etc.)
- iPod Touch, Smartphone, Droid, Blackberry
- eReader/Tablets – (Kindle, Nooks, etc.)

### **Rules and Conditions:**

The following rules and conditions are specific to our school's BYOD program. All other school/District rules and policies also apply, including, but not limited to, the Code of Conduct and Technology Appropriate Use Policy (AUP).

#### **Where/When/Storage**

1. Students may only use their device in the classroom when instructed to do so by their teacher.
2. Students may not use their device to update personal social media sites/accounts during school hours. Students are not to call, email, text message, or electronically communicate with others from their personal device, including other students, parents, guardians, friends, and family during the school day.
3. Students may not use their device in common areas (hallways, cafeteria, etc.) unless specifically instructed to do so by a teacher or school administrator.
4. Students may only use their device in the library/media center with the permission of the media specialist.
5. Students may not use their device while on school buses without permission from the supervising teacher.
6. Students should not ask teachers or staff to 'hold onto' or store their device.
7. Administrators should not be asked to retrieve devices left in school lockers during or after normal school hours.

#### **Network/Internet Access/Electrical**

1. Students should always use the school's wireless network, not personal data plans, to access the web. BYOD privileges may be revoked for students found to be visiting websites which are blocked by the District's filter.
2. No guarantee is made that the school's wireless network will always be available. Network outages may occur without notice. In addition, no quality of wireless signal is promised. Signal strength may vary depending on the location in the school and the number of devices simultaneously connecting to the network.
3. Students should bring devices fully charged to school. Access to electrical outlets for charging should not be expected.

#### **Theft/Loss /Damage/Troubleshoot/Inspection**

1. The school/District will not be held financially responsible for lost or stolen devices, nor are school administrators responsible for conducting searches for lost/stolen devices. It is recommended that the device locator feature be enabled if possible.
2. The school/District will not be held responsible for any physical damage or data loss, including damage/data loss resulting from connecting devices to the school's wireless network or power outlets.
3. School/District staff, including Technology staff, will not configure, troubleshoot, or repair student devices.
4. School officials may read, examine, or inspect the contents of any personal device upon reasonable suspicion that the contents or recent utilization of the device contains evidence of a violation of these or other rules and policies, as well as any local, state, or federal laws.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by these rules and conditions. I understand that bringing my device is a privilege, not a right; and that this privilege can be revoked for violations of these rules or any other Code of Conduct violation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature/ Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature/Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date