STUDENT BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

INTRODUCTION

The Merrimack School District has provided a device for every student in the District as of the 2020 school year. During that time and subsequent years, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) has been an option for students. In order to increase learning time in class, student and staff data security, recommended testing environments, and provide a similar experience for all students; BYOD will only be an option for the Class of 2024 and 2025. After these classes have graduated, there will no longer be an option to bring a personal device in for regular class activities.

The recommended device for all students is the District provided device but we have also added guidelines around what kind of device can be used in the classroom for Bring Your Own Device. For example, cellphones are not considered a valid BYOD device for students of the Class of 2024 or 2025. The following provides guidance around devices that can be used for BYOD.

GUIDELINES FOR BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

The following Guidelines are intended to establish the parameters for devices that are acceptable to use in the classroom. These parameters include adequate screen size, version of operating systems, types of operating systems, and specific device types.

The School District cannot repair or replace parts of BYOD devices. District IT Staff may offer guidance to help with technical issues but full liability and responsibility for non-district devices is that of the student and their family.

Students that choose not to use a District provided device will comply with the following BYOD guidelines:

1. Screen size:

    a. Adequate screen size is no less than 10 inches and recommended over 11 inches.

2. Operating System:

    a. The following operating systems are considered adequate, as long as they are still a version that is supported and in servicing for security updates:

        • Microsoft Windows in either Home or Pro versions. The following versions are NOT appropriate for class use: Windows S, Windows Mobile, Windows IoT Core, Windows Embedded, Windows Enterprise, and Windows Server.

        • MacOS in a supported version

        • iPadOS in a supported version

        • ChromeOS without Developer Mode turned on.

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3. Cellphones are NOT considered an adequate device for use in the classroom.

4. Other Software Considerations:
    a. AntiVirus Software:
        • Any devices that are running Windows or MacOS must have antivirus software installed and updated.

5. Other Considerations:
    a. All students, whether participating in BYOD or not must still abide by the Student Use of Information Technology Policy - JICL

Legal References:

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2nd Review and Adoption: October 2, 2023