

District: Tupelo Public School District
Section: I - Instructional Program
Policy Code: IJBA - Personal Electronic Devices - Laptops, Tablets, & Mobile Devices (BYOD)

~~1. "Bring Your Own Device" Program~~

~~The Board recognizes that access to electronic devices in instruction may enhance the student's learning process. Therefore, the Board approves a "Bring Your Own Device" program whereby staff and students, under the direction and supervision of the teaching staff, may use their personal electronic devices for instructional purposes. Use of the TPSD network shall be governed by the District's acceptable use policy. Access to the District's wireless network, including the Internet, shall be made available to students, employees and members of the Board of Trustees primarily for instructional and administrative purposes and in accordance with administrative regulations. Limited personal use of the system may be permitted if the use (1) imposes no tangible cost to the District; (2) does not unduly burden the District's computer or network resources; and (3) has no adverse effect on an employee's job performance or on a student's academic performance.~~

~~2. Cell Phones~~

~~a. The use and misuse of cell phones has become a serious problem that threatens the ability of the District's schools to properly and efficiently operate their educational programs. Therefore, with the exception of the BYOD program, cell phones are not to be seen nor heard, and cell phone usage is prohibited inside schools buildings during school hours.~~

~~b. The use of cell phones at school-sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted only to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.~~

~~3. Violation of this policy will subject the student to discipline under this provision and/or any other applicable provision in the Student Code of Conduct.~~

~~4. The student and/or the student's parents/guardians expressly assume any risk associated with students owning or possessing technology equipment including cell phones. The students' parent/guardian may file a police report with the school resource officer.~~

~~5. The superintendent is authorized to establish administrative procedures in furtherance of this policy.~~

Last Review Date: _____

Review History: [1/1/1900][1/1/1901]

Administrative Procedures

1. Definitions

a. "Cell phone" shall include paging devices and all other types of telecommunications and/or electronic device and accessories, with the exception of smart phones used for the BYOD program.

b. "Use of a cell phone" includes any incoming or outgoing call, text message, message waiting, page, or means of communicating electronically.

c. "BYOD" is the Bring Your Own Device program that enables students to use their personal electronic devices (laptops, tablets, smart phones) for sanctioned educational purposes.

d. "PED" is any personal electronic device including laptops, tablets, smart phones, and all other types of telecommunications and/or electronic devices and accessories.

2. Students and staff will now be able to access the TPSD wireless network with their PEDs during the school day. With classroom teacher approval, students may use their PEDs to access the Internet and collaborate with other students.

3. Access to the District's electronic communications system is a privilege, not a right. All users are required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of all administrative regulations governing use of the system and shall agree in writing to comply with such regulations and guidelines. Noncompliance with applicable regulations may result in suspension or termination of privileges and other disciplinary action consistent with District policies. Students, staff, volunteers, parents and all PED users are required to comply with the TPSD Acceptable Use Policy, which outlines unacceptable uses of electronic information resources ("EIR"). The District is not liable for any damage, injury to, or consequences arising from use of a PED outside of the District EIR.

4. In the event of an emergency condition that may require the need for a cell phone, the principal or designee will provide specific written approval and instructions for use of a cell phone.

5. Under special circumstances, including under the BYOD program, a teacher may allow students in his/her class to use their cell phones during that class only, solely for purposes relating to the educational objectives of that class, and only upon specific verbal instruction by the teacher. Examples of appropriate uses include but are not limited to

~~notating assignments in the device's calendar function, utilizing the calculator function, memo function, etc. Improper use or using the device after the educational objective has been completed will be considered a violation of this policy and will subject students to the appropriate consequences.~~

~~6.a. Cell phones and PEDs used in violation of this policy may be confiscated and the parent/guardian of the student will be notified. The school will retain the confiscated device until the student has completed the discipline imposed, after which it will be returned to the parent/guardian.~~

~~b. Should it be determined that the contents of a student's cell phone or PED should be viewed or searched, the administrators will contact the school resource officer or law enforcement officer to conduct such search. Students' privacy rights may be limited as to the content contained on any device that has been confiscated.~~

~~c. Violations of law may result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by the District.~~

Adopted Date: 6/12/2013

Approved/Revised Date: