

# Vineland Public Schools

## Bring Your Own Device

### FAQs

Tentatively scheduled to be approved as a Vineland Board policy on April 13, 2016.

#### [General Policy Considerations](#)

**Q: What is a BYOD Program?**

*A: Our BYOD or Bring Your Own Device program will begin in September 2016. The program will permit all students pre-K through 12 to bring their own Internet enabled devices to school. The use of these devices is completely voluntary.*

**Q: What are the benefits of a BYOD policy?**

*A: Several school systems that have implemented a BYOD policy have identified numerous benefits to students and staff. These include preparing students for college and career, appealing to the learning styles of 21<sup>st</sup> century learners, fostering student ownership of their own learning, allowing real-time access to information, providing easier access to online instructional materials, supplementing school resources and equipment, and facilitating the transition between home and school resources.*

**Q: How might my child be using his/her device during the school day?**

*A: Students might use their devices to complete in-class activities, check the Student Portal, complete homework, collaborate in real-time, research for projects, access websites with curriculum-related content, keep track of classroom assignments, take notes, compose, and complete other approved instructional activities to enhance learning. During non-instructional time, students may use their devices in accordance with VPS guidelines, unless otherwise directed by staff members.*

**Q: Is there a separate student network?**

*A: Yes, we have a separate student network. Students should connect to the "guest" wireless network.*

**Q: Will the device be protected with Internet Content Filtering?**

*A: The Children's Internet Protection Act requires all network access to be filtered, regardless of the device being used, while in a public school. Students own their devices, but the network belongs to the school, and Internet access will be filtered. Students should use the VPS WiFi connection with their device while at school. Students who bypass the VPS network to use their*

*mobile data plans (3G/4G service) instead are not protected with VPS Internet Content filtering and may be subject to their mobile plan's data charges. All acceptable use policy provisions apply to the use of personal devices. Please know phone apps cannot be filtered.*

**Q: What if my child is exposed to inappropriate content while at school?**

*A: As with any concern for your child's well-being while at school, please contact your school's administrator to discuss the situation.*

**Q: Can an administrator revoke a student's BYOD privilege?**

*A: Yes. If a student is not following our BYOD guidelines, the Acceptable Use Policy, or teacher direction for the use of a personally owned device, an administrator may revoke the privilege through the regular discipline process.*

**Q: Can students make videos or recordings using electronic devices?**

*A: Students and/or school staff members should not be subject to having a video or audio recording taken of any student(s) or school staff member(s) for any purpose **without the consent of** the student, the student's parent or guardian, and/or the school staff member.*

**Q: What about the disparity among students who don't own a device? Does that give educational advantage/disadvantage over others?**

*A: Many lessons in the classroom are collaborative and therefore students can work together. When work is individualized students without access to a personal device can use devices within the schools. Each school has broken the 50 percent mark where 50 percent of students should be able to access some kind of mobile device.*

**No child's learning experience or academic performance should be affected because he or she does not have an Internet-enabled device to bring to school.**

**Q: Are there any leftover Title funds for technology being split among middle schools?**

*A: Some Title devices will be distributed throughout the district based on the technology obsolescence plan.*

### **[What are the Hardware and Software Considerations?](#)**

**Q: What types of computing devices may my child bring to school?**

*A: Students may use any devices that falls into the category of electronic device used for educational purposes ultimately approved by the classroom instructor.*

**Q: How can my child's computing device connect to the Internet?**

*A: The district provides a wireless "guest" network which students may connect to while using their devices in the building. Additionally, students may use an Internet connection from an outside provider. In this case, the family will be responsible for any expense incurred using this type of Internet connection.*

**Q: Are there suggested accessories?**

*A: Providing a padded bag or protective sleeve or cover is suggested. This will provide more protection for the day to day use of these computing devices. A headset with microphone will be useful when accessing a website with audio and/or video.*

**Q: Will there be "charging stations" so my child's electronic device can be recharged?**

*A: Considering today's electronic device battery technology, the device's battery charge should be sufficient for lessons requiring use of the device throughout the day. "Charging stations" will not be provided. Personally owned devices should be fully charged before coming to school. Students should not have the expectation that they will be able to charge devices at school. Many classrooms do not have the capacity to handle additional electrical demands for charging personally owned devices.*

**Q: Are there any specifications for the type of laptop, netbook, or tablet my child may bring to school?**

*A: Buying a computer is a personal choice. Ultimately, each person will need to choose the device that works best for his/her child. Generally speaking, as long as the device is able to connect to the wireless network and access the world wide web, this should suffice.*

**Q: Can my child use an iPad or Android tablet?**

*A: Any type of tablet, netbook or laptop can be used. Whichever you choose, the device must be able to connect wirelessly to the district's wireless network. The district does not advocate for any one company or type of device?*

**Q: What software will be needed on my child's computer?**

*A: No software needs to be purchased. The Vineland Public Schools uses Google Docs to store student work. This is a web-based file storage system providing many productivity tools including a word processor, spreadsheet program, and a presentation program. Students will be able to use these capabilities provided by the The Vineland Public Schools, through Google Docs, rather than purchasing software.*

### Whose Responsibility Is It?

**Q: Who pays for the technology brought to school?**

*A: These devices will be purchased by and remain the property of the family.*

**Q: Who is responsible for any repairs or updating to personal computing devices?**

*A: Students and/or their families are responsible for their personal computing devices at all times. The Vineland Public Schools does not provide technology support staff to repair or update personal computing devices.*

**Q: Who is responsible for damage, loss, or theft of devices your child brings to school?**

*A: Families must stress the responsibilities their children have when bringing their own computing devices to school. Any devices students bring to school are their sole responsibility.*

The Vineland Public Schools takes no responsibility to search for lost or stolen devices nor is there any assumption of financial responsibility by The Vineland Public Schools for damaged, lost or stolen personal computing devices.

**Q: Will the family need to have Internet access at home?**

*A: No. It would be helpful, however, to have some form of Internet access (wired or wireless) in order for a child to make full use of school resources from home, as well the multitude of resources available on the World Wide Web. But, it is not required in order for a child to use a personal computing device at school. Affordable internet can be found at - <https://internetessentials.com/>*

### Miscellaneous Information

**Q: Will my child need to have a signed Acceptable Use Policy on file?**

*A: Yes. Forms must be signed by all students who want to have access to educational resources. Parents/guardians are also required to read and sign the agreement.*

**Q: Will my child be expected to use his or her computing device both at school and at home?**

*A: Just as with traditional assignments, some assignments may need to be completed at home. If there is a computing device malfunction or an interruption of Internet connectivity at home, a student may use computers at school before or after the school day.*

**Q: Will students be able to print documents from their personal computing devices?**

*A: Students will not be able to access school printers from their personal computing devices. We encourage teachers and students to electronically deliver documents through email or other online methods when possible.*

**Q: Where will my child's work be stored?**

*A: Students will be encouraged to store their work on their District provided Google accounts. In so doing, the student will have access to their work from any device, anywhere they have internet access.*

**All Electronic Devices:**

- Classroom staff has the ultimate control over when and what type of electronic devices are used in the classroom.
- As with reading a printed book, reading from electronic devices should be permitted as with reading a printed book.
- Students will be allowed to use their electronic devices in hallways and are allowed to have one headphone/earbud in when moving through the hallways.
- Disciplinary action, as outlined in the Vineland Public Schools Code of Conduct shall be taken when a student fails to follow the directions of a staff member regarding portable electronic devices or if reasonable belief exists that the student has violated the terms of the Acceptable Use Procedures and Guidelines or other school policy.

### Additional Information

<b>Who</b>	<b>What</b>
Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Talk with your student about the responsibility that comes with owning and using a portable electronic device.</li><li>● Decide whether or not to allow your student to use a personally owned portable electronic device in school.</li><li>● Review the BYOD FAQs and agree to the terms stated in the acceptable use policy.</li><li>● Monitor your device's data plan for appropriate coverage.</li></ul>
Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Review the acceptable use policy with your parents/guardians and agree to the terms stated in the acceptable use policy.</li><li>● Guard your device against loss, damage, and theft.</li><li>● Make sure your device is charged before coming to school.</li><li>● Silence the audible notification sounds and volume of your device during the school day, or use earbuds/headphones when appropriate.</li><li>● Do not use your device to record, store, or transmit any type of image, sound, or video, except for approved projects with the permission of school staff.</li><li>● Use your device to enhance your learning.</li><li>● Troubleshoot problems with your device.</li><li>● Maintain the privilege of using your device by minimizing distractions, using your device appropriately, and following the directions of school staff.</li></ul>
School Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Model the appropriate use of devices and digital citizenship.</li><li>● Allow students to use their devices within the VPS guidelines.</li><li>● Do not direct or encourage students to allow other students to use their device as part of instruction.</li><li>● Consider equity of access to technology when designing lessons and provide the tools necessary for all students to complete assignments.</li></ul>

[Where Students Can Use Portable Electronic Devices](#)

<b>Location</b>	<b>Elementary Schools</b>	<b>Middle and High Schools</b>
School Bus	Yes, with earbuds or headphones, unless otherwise directed by the bus driver.	Yes, with earbuds or headphones, unless otherwise directed by the bus driver.
Classroom, Media Center, and Field Trips	Yes, unless otherwise directed by the teachers.	Yes, unless otherwise directed by the teacher.
Hallways and Stairwells	No, unless permission is granted by school staff.	Yes, unless otherwise directed by school staff.
Cafeteria	No, unless permission is granted by school staff.	Yes, unless otherwise directed by school staff.
Restrooms	No.	No.
Assemblies	No, unless permission is granted by school staff.	No, unless permission is granted by school staff.
Recess Locations	No, unless permission is granted by school staff.	N/A
Locker Room	N/A	No images/video/audio recordings.