



## Learning in the Digital Age: Technology in Auburn-Washburn

Auburn-Washburn has made a commitment to provide technology tools to support your student's learning. As we prepare students for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century we recognize that technology has a permanent place in the learning process and in the workplace. We plan to increase technology based instruction and are making decisions about which tools enhance the learning in specific content areas. These decisions are being made in each building and department. Auburn-Washburn is also exploring what kinds of devices (cell phones, tablets, laptops, e-readers, etc.) may be used instructionally. As part of that research, we also are looking at the degree to which different devices are "content-friendly," as recognized platforms can vary greatly. This means your student may experience different opportunities to use technology tools in different classrooms. We also recognize that students who own their own device may choose to use it at school, and we want to support that practice if it works for your family.

### **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)**

What does BYOD really mean? How will it affect instruction? And most importantly, as Auburn-Washburn moves in this direction, what do students and parents need to know about this topic?

This fall, we anticipate students may choose to use their own technology more and more as part of the teaching and learning process. To prepare for this, the district has expanded its Wi-Fi capabilities. This fall, Washburn Rural Middle School and Washburn Rural High School will expand our BYOD options for students. Teachers and students may elect to use their personal devices to access the Internet through the Auburn-Washburn network.

Questions about BYOD generally revolve around these issues:

#### **Access**

Access to the Internet at school will be provided via the Auburn-Washburn network. To be granted access, students must confirm they accept the terms and conditions of Auburn-Washburn's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). By accepting these terms and conditions, users agree to uphold the contents of the AUP as well as the Student Handbook on their student-owned devices while on our network. Additionally, in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), Auburn-Washburn will filter all content for users connected to the network at school.

#### **Theft, Loss, or Damage**

The owner of the device is responsible for ensuring that the device is safe and secure. Auburn-Washburn and its employees are not liable or responsible for any theft, damage, or loss of any non-district device or the information on any such device. However, our staff will work with students to identify safe practices for use and storage at school. Parents may purchase discounted insurance for their device from Worth Ave Group.

#### **Texting and Data Fees**

Auburn-Washburn is not responsible for any fees associated with using any personal technology devices. All fees and charges related to texting or Internet use on any student-owned device are the sole responsibility of the owner. We offer Wi-Fi Internet access through the network without fees to BYOD participants. However, if a student chooses to use other functions or features on his or her device, standard device fees may be billed by the student's provider.

## Support

Teachers may or may not be familiar with the functionality of your student's personal device and the software it contains. Therefore we ask that your student has a good working knowledge of his or her device in order to be able to use it for learning tasks. Auburn-Washburn will not be responsible for troubleshooting hardware or software issues on your student's device. We hope to grow in this area in the future and are looking for options to help all our students make good use of their technology tools.

## Discipline Guidelines

We recognize that electronic communication devices are an important part of our everyday world and are increasingly being used in teaching and learning. However, we do not want these devices to interfere with the students' learning environment. Students must follow school rules when using their personal devices. School rules apply when students are at school or attending a school-sponsored or related activity off-campus. When a student misuses a personal device, the school will make every effort to match our response to the seriousness of the misuse. Responses may include but are not limited to: *a search of the device within the context of the alleged misuse; a warning to the student, verbally or in writing; confiscation of the device for a period of time (for example, the school may keep the device for the rest of the school day or longer and relinquish it to the parent); the denial of the student's privilege of participating in activities in accord with student discipline procedures; a contact to the student's parents, school security, or the police; other disciplinary actions in accord with student discipline procedures approved or adopted by the Auburn-Washburn Board of Education.*

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## Device Tips to Optimize the BYOD Initiative

<b>Devices:</b>	The following devices have been tested for the Auburn-Washburn environment. Tablets: iPad 2 or higher, Samsung Galaxy Tab, Samsung A0x Laptops: Windows, Macintosh, Chromebook
<b>Screen Size:</b>	9.5 inches or greater is considered optimal; 7 inches or greater is adequate for many instructional activities
<b>Operating System (OS):</b>	Android 4.x or higher, iOS 6 or higher, Windows 7/8/81, OS X. (The operating system should be the version provided by the manufacturer.)
<b>Connectivity:</b>	When used at school, the device will connect using 437Guest or 437BYOD
<b>Browser:</b>	The browsers listed below are typically supported. Due to the wide variance of digital materials available for access, occasional incompatibilities may be encountered. Google Chrome, 30 or higher Mozilla Firefox, Minimum 24 or higher Microsoft Internet Explorer 10 or higher Apple Safari
<b>Plug-ins:</b>	Plug-in requirements vary depending on applications but Acrobat Reader 11 or higher is preferred. Adobe Flash 13 or higher. Much of the available educational content requires the use of Flash which is not supported on iOS devices (iPad).

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