

WESTFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Policy

The Westfield Public Schools (WPS) is committed to creating learning environments that provides equitable access to technology to support students in becoming self-directed learners, collaborative team players, and responsible digital citizens. Providing students and staff with an effective digital learning environment is a critical component of the Westfield Public Schools mission. The Westfield Public Schools provides both technology devices as well as an Internet Wireless Access Connection for use by students and staff for educational purposes. In addition, students who agree to adhere to the conditions set forth in this “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) policy as well as the Westfield Public Schools’ Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) are permitted to bring to school their own electronic devices for educational purposes only. It is the joint responsibility of both the school staff and the student’s parents/guardians to educate students about their responsibilities in regards to technology and to establish expectations when using technology. The use of the Westfield Public Schools’ network is a privilege that can be revoked at any time at the discretion of the Principal or his/her designee.

Personal portable wireless devices, including laptops, chromebooks, Ipads, Ipods, Cell Phones (iPhone, Android, etc.) will be allowed for use in school classrooms for educational tasks such as accessing educational content on the Westfield Public Schools wireless Internet network, taking class notes, and sending E-mail appropriate to the educational task at hand.

The Westfield Public Schools supplies an Internet Wireless Access Connection which requires all students to authenticate using their own username and passwords. All Internet traffic is filtered for compliance with the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All internet traffic is logged, and any students found trying to bypass the filter or “firewall” in order to gain access to restricted/unauthorized websites, or who otherwise access content not necessary or appropriate for educational purposes may not only lose the privilege of using the network, but may also be subject to discipline.

Conditions for bringing a personal device to school:

1. Students who choose to bring electronic devices to school or to school sponsored events do so at their own risk. The WPS and its staff are not responsible for any damage to, or loss or theft of, any such devices.
2. All users are required to utilize the District’s secured and filtered wireless network to access the Internet. The use of any private data plans (i.e., 3G/4G, aircard, mobile broadband cards) or any other means of bypassing the schools filtering mechanism is prohibited.

3. Students who chose to bring their own electronic devices to school must keep them turned off and out of sight in classrooms, labs, the library, and other such locations unless using them for assigned educational purposes. In addition, even when using the devices in other school related activities (such as before/after school, during an athletic event, etc.) the student is responsible for avoiding use that may be disruptive.
4. During a class or other school event, students are prohibited from using their devices to take photos or to make video or audio recordings without the permission of the classroom teacher or other supervising staff member. During unstructured time, such as before/after school or passing periods, students are prohibited from using their devices to take photos or make video or audio recordings.
5. Personal electronic devices may not be used at any time in locker rooms, restrooms, or the Nurse's Office.
6. The devices may not be used on any tests, quizzes, or assignments unless the teacher gives specific notice that these devices may be used for the task. In the event a student uses a device for a task not authorized by the teacher, such conduct will be considered an effort to gain an unfair advantage and an act of academic dishonesty, with appropriate consequences to be imposed.
7. Users are prohibited from taking or attempting actions that might reasonably be expected to disrupt the operation of the network or equipment and/or interfere with the learning of other students or work of WPS employees.
8. Westfield Public Schools' staff may inspect a student's personal device if there is a suspicion that the search will reveal a violation of the terms of the district's Bring Your Own Device policy, the Acceptable Use Policy, or other violation of school rules or applicable law.

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