

September 3, 2014

Dear Parents,

Continuing upon last year's success, the Eighth grade classes will be continuing to utilize the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program this school year. Beginning later this month, student in 8th grade will be allowed to use their own technology, using the district network, in the classrooms when teachers believe that it is useful for instruction. It is important to remember that technology isn't meant to replace teaching but enhance the learning process, and as such students will not be allowed to use their devices all of the time, or when not explicitly permitted.

It is important for students and parents/guardians to understand that all students are responsible for their own device, and that all rules and regulations set forth in the District Acceptable Use Policy still apply while using the devices at school. Working with Administration and the District Technology Coordinator, it has been decided that students will only be allowed to use their devices when connected to the District Network, and will not be allowed to use their own data. Use of the district network will allow our students to safely use their internet and save your plans data for personal use outside of school. Also, to protect the district network, students will be given class specific network keys which are valid for certain days and times.

Currently, students have access to many types of electronic devices including smart phones, iPads, iPods, Kindle Fires, tablets, laptops, and netbooks. Ideally, devices will allow students to access the internet and/or use apps (Apple, Android, Kindle, Nook, etc). It is also important to remember that students without electronic devices will not be at a disadvantage in class, as it is our hope that this policy will enable us to better allocate use of the four classroom laptops for those students without their own devices.

Please complete the questionnaire and permission slip on the next page and return by Mon. Sept. 8th. It is required that all students return the questionnaire and form.

Thank you,

The Eighth Grade Teachers

Mrs. Krapf, Mr. Beail, Mr. Leary, Mrs. Natsis, Ms. Catrambone, Mrs. Cullen, and Mrs. Dunham

8th Grade Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Permission Form

Please return this form to your homeroom teacher no later than September 8, 2013.

I, the parent/guardian of _____ hereby give permission for him/her to use privately owned device(s) while at school for educational purposes. We understand that Bellmawr Public Schools, school administration, and teachers are not liable for any stolen, lost, or damaged devices. We also understand that all students are bound by District Internet Acceptable Use Policy signed at the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

Student Name (print): _____ Date _____

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name (print): _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

I, the parent/guardian of _____ do not give permission for him/her to use a privately owned device while at school.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

8th Grade Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) Questionnaire

Student Name: _____

1. Which type of portable electronic devices does your student have access to? Check all that apply.

- Cell/Smart Phone (able to access internet/apps through school network)
- iPad
- iPod
- Kindle Fire/Nook Color
- tablet
- laptop
- netbook
- other (please explain _____)
- My student does not any portable electronic device

2. Does your student have internet access at home for their portable electronic devices?

- yes
- no

3. Since students were allowed to use portable electronic devices in school on a permanent basis for educational purposes, would you be more likely to invest in a device for your student?

- yes
- no

4. Do you have any additional comments, questions, or concerns?