

Overview

Saint Joseph Public Schools is committed to preparing students for the future, which includes the use of technology in careers and higher education. Building upon the the 1:1 computing initiative at Upton Middle School, St. Joseph High School embraces a B.Y.O.D. (Bring Your Own Device) environment to enhance student learning. The B.Y.O.D. environment will provide students and teachers with the following:

- the ability to acquire, share, evaluate, and create digital information
- skills for achieving media and digital literacy
- an opportunity to behave in a safe and ethical online environment
- productivity tools for efficient communication, collaboration, and presentation
- use of a familiar device and software programs
- a smooth transition between home and school assignments
- a device-agnostic environment
- immediate access to online learning resources and information

Definitions and Acceptable Devices

B.Y.O.D. stands for Bring Your Own Device. It can also be referred to as B.Y.O.T. or Bring Your Own Technology. The program is designed to allow students to bring their own digital devices into the classroom, connect to a specially designed student network, and use their devices in class as appropriate and needed for school assignments. The use of these devices will be encouraged in authorized spaces throughout the SJHS campus where wireless access will be provided.

A list of system requirements for devices can be found in PDF form at <http://www.sjschools.org/technology/> in the BYOD section.

Policy and Guidelines

Students will be expected to abide by all existing school rules and Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). The AUP can be found at <http://www.sjschools.org/technology> and SJHS Handbook at <http://www.sjschools.org/about-saint-joseph-high-school/handbook>

St. Joseph Public Schools will not be responsible/liable for any loss, damage, or theft.

Personal devices should be fully charged upon arrival at school. Students should be made aware that the school is not responsible for providing the power to charge devices during the school day, but there are common areas where power may be available.

The school district will not provide home Internet access.

No device, personal or otherwise, may be used to record, store, or transmit any type of image, sound, or video from SJPS, except for approved projects with the permission of the proper staff. These actions could be in violation of state and federal law.

Users must understand that the use of a personal device in the classroom is only at the teacher's discretion and should support instructional activities.

Users must ensure that their personal devices do not disrupt the learning for others. (For example, the use of ear buds could be used to keep audio from disrupting others.)

If reasonable belief exists that a student has violated the terms of the agreement or other school policy, the student's device may be inspected and/or confiscated.

FAQs

Q: How will students be using their device during the school day?

A: Students will use their devices to complete in-class activities, check grades, complete homework, collaborate in real time, research for projects, access websites with curriculum-related content, keep track of classroom assignments, and record journal entries and other approved instructional activities.

Q: Where may devices be used?

A: Devices may be used in common areas--the classroom, the media center, the student center, and so on--but are not to be used in areas assumed to be private (locker rooms, bathrooms, etc.).

Q: What about security/theft/damage?

A: Devices are the sole responsibility of the student. SJPS accepts no responsibility for the security or safety of devices. It is recommended, however, that parents enter the serial number of the device in the Power School Parent Portal to assist building administration in the event a device is turned into the office. Ultimately, students are responsible for the security of the device. Teachers and other staff will not store or hold onto devices. School technology department members and teachers are not obligated to support, repair, or troubleshoot student devices.

Q: What is the policy on charging personally owned devices while at school?

A: It is expected that personally owned devices come to school with a full charge. Students should be made aware that the school is not responsible for providing the necessary power to charge devices during the school day; that said, there are common areas where power may be available.

Q: What apps/software will be used in the classroom?

A: SJPS does not provide or require apps or software for personally owned devices. Classroom lessons will be tailored to the technology to which students have access. The internet browser built into the personally owned devices can be used to access the SJPS My Big Campus system and the SJPS Google Apps for Education application.

Q: What happens if the device breaks while in school?

A: The student will put away the device and take it home at the end of the school day where the student and parent can troubleshoot the device. SJPS has limited resources and cannot provide comprehensive support for the wide variety of devices allowed under this program. Loaner devices will be available for situations where a device is necessary for classroom instruction.

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

A: To facilitate instruction and practice Internet safety, the SJPS Internet connection is protected by an Internet content filter. Cellular data plans do not use the SJPS Internet connection and therefore do not use the SJPS Internet content filter. Students should only use the SJPS WiFi Internet connection with their B.Y.O.D. devices while on SJPS property.

Q: Should I go out and buy my child a device?

A: Personally owned devices are a supplement to the equipment already in use in the classroom. Parents are not required to purchase a device for their child; however, parents who are considering technology purchases for their students may want to review the BYOD device requirements at <http://www.sjschools.org/technology/>. While SJPS does not recommend specific technology products, we do recommend a minimum set of standards to better enable learning.