



Canyon ISD Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)

Dear Parents,

Canyon ISD realizes that technology impacts our everyday lives. CISD also knows that technology can be a very powerful and beneficial tool for student learning. Therefore, CISD is excited to begin implementing Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) in our district.

Each of the CISD campuses will implement BYOT in a variety of ways. Eleven of our campuses have chosen to be a campus-wide BYOT school. These campuses are Crestview, Hillside, Lakeview, Arden Road, Canyon Intermediate, Greenways Intermediate, Westover Park, Canyon Junior High, Midway High, Randall High, and Canyon High School. The remaining campuses have elected to have individual teachers decide whether to allow BYOT use in their classrooms. If you are receiving this letter, it means that your child will have an opportunity to bring his/her own technology devices to school to assist in their learning. Additional classrooms may be included in BYOT throughout the year.

Students who are not able to bring their own technology device will not be left out of learning activities or penalized in any way. Students without devices will be given an opportunity to use a campus-owned device, partner with someone who has a device, or complete an assignment in an alternate way.

Devices:

BYOT teachers will help students utilize their own devices to foster collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and creativity. The Internet-ready devices students currently own can be used for instructional purposes. The device can be an Internet-ready cell phone, tablet, iPod Touch, laptop, or eReader. The access and resources these devices will afford CISD students is the focus. These devices will only be used for instruction while in a BYOT classroom.

Broadband:

All Canyon ISD campuses have filtered Wi-Fi Internet access throughout all of the learning facilities. The Internet will be filtered just like it is filtered on school-owned computers. Students **must** access the Wi-Fi connection and not their own 3G or 4G data plans. As students access the CISD provided Wi-Fi, they will not be utilizing their own personal data plan or minutes.

Digital Content:

The mobile learning devices and the district Wi-Fi will allow students to access rich digital content for focused learning. Many of the CISD instructional materials will now be in a digital, online format. All of the Internet resources will be filtered for protection of students. CISD students will receive Internet safety instruction including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites including chat rooms. Cyberbullying awareness and response will be included in the instruction.

Online Learning Communities:

BYOT will allow students to collaborate and communicate with other students, teachers, and experts. Project Share is a new initiative by the Commissioner of Education and the Texas Education Agency which will allow students to participate in online learning in a safe, secure teacher-led environment.

BYOT Documents:

Before students will be allowed to bring their own devices for instructional purposes, they must agree to and sign the CISD Acceptable Use Policy. Both students and parents must sign the attached BYOT guidelines agreement. The attached documents will explain the BYOT process and will serve as a contract between the student, parent, and school. Please realize that students who cannot bring their own technology will still be included in the learning.

CISD looks forward to providing engaging learning experiences for your child. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

Sincerely,