

Dear Parents,

Beginning on September 19, students at Patrick County High School will have the opportunity to bring their mobile electronic devices, such as cell phones, iPads, iPods, and laptops, to school to use for educational purposes.

We recognize that many of our students have these devices and understand that they may be helpful to them with their schoolwork. The calendar on these devices can be a great way for students to organize themselves to meet important deadlines. Access to the wealth of information on the internet can be valuable for research and projects. There is much educational content online that can add great value to our students' education.

PCHS is piloting the program to determine if this is a benefit for our students. Guidelines are in place to make sure that the use of these devices does not distract from the educational process. Please review the Guidelines for the Use of Student-owned Devices and the Acceptable Use Agreement with your child to make sure that he or she understands how these may be used. Also, please discuss your cellular plan with your child so he or she understands how they may use the phone without incurring additional charges.

1. Students must obtain teacher permission before using an electronic device during classroom instruction and the use must support the instructional activities happening in the classroom.
2. All use of the devices must adhere to Guidelines for Use of Student-owned Devices and the Acceptable Use Agreement.
3. Students must turn off and put away an electronic device when requested by a teacher.
4. Students may use their personal electronic device before school, at lunch, and after school in adult supervised areas only, such as the Media Center or classrooms with the teacher present, as long as it does not create a distraction or disruption for others in the area. If an adult asks a student to put his/her electronic device away, the student must comply.
5. Students are NOT permitted to use their personal electronic device to access the Internet by any manner other than connecting through the secure wireless network provided.

Please understand that the use of the devices during classroom time must be for educational purposes and not personal use. Also, a student must connect to our wireless network to access the internet rather than using the phone 3G capabilities in order to ensure that students are not accessing inappropriate content.

A student who brings their own device to school is personally responsible for it. Any damage and charges related to the use of the device is the responsibility of the individual. District technicians will not support, service, or repair any equipment that does not belong to the District.

Any violation of the Guidelines or the Acceptable Use Agreement will result in disciplinary action, including the loss of privileges.

Please make sure your child has a clear understanding of your expectations as to whether or not he or she will be allowed to bring a device to school. If you have questions or concerns, or DO NOT WANT your student to participate, please contact Mr. Kenneth Cox at kenneth.cox@patrick.k12.va.us or 276-694-7137.