

**Acceptable Use Meeting
Monday, March 5, 2018
Wakefield High School**

Community Feedback

Educational Purpose

- Merely providing digital devices to each student does not “eliminate” the digital divide. Recommend “reducing” instead. Many students may experience lack of access to wifi at home and other barriers.
- Please add:
 - The district’s strategic goals are to nurture the whole child
 - The intent of networked information resources is to enhance learning. The district intends to use technology where it is shown to enhance learning, and where there is evidence of benefits to students.
 - Convenience and technology should be secondary to instructional design.
 - At elementary and middle school levels, families should have the option to opt-out of technology use at home.
 - There should be guidelines on time with technology, just as there are for homework and physical activity
- “Applications” is used here without naming acronym (apps) later used in Instructional Use bullet #4 of PIP
- Parents need to be able to opt-out
- Blue light at night leads to sleeplessness, but after practice/after school activities - what choice do they have?

Acceptable Use

- Re: “Instructional Use” on PIP- Why is it implied that use of device is ok in middle school?
- This is way too soft. It really says nothing about the true policies. You gave VA Beach as an example. It is very straight and to the point - use in support of education (research, for school business, etc.)
- The policy and PIP language are almost identical
- Very difficult for ADHD students to sleep - add shutdown function
- Block the inappropriate material and games, etc.
- Give ipad to parent and teachers together - ipad for school work not personal use - parents in charge of time and what it is used for
- There needs to be a daily/weekly time limit because of the health impact and addictive nature. This can be adjusted by age but elementary and middle school especially.

Discipline

- You can't enforce a policy if it doesn't exist. There is too much flexibility on what teachers let kids use ipads for.
- PIP restates the policy
- How will you enforce? Give examples and level of punishment.
- Block what they don't need for school and it isn't an issue.
- "Shall result" seems overly punitive. Suggest "may result"?
- What happens if student loses device access? Will this affect student's grade/ability to complete assignments?
- PIP simply repeats language of policy.
 - Needs elaboration
 - What is disciplinary process for tech violations?
 - For how long does someone lose network privileges?
- Discipline outside of a clearly defined and implemented digital citizenship curriculum is without merit. Kids are not being properly instructed in use of electronic devices BEFORE they are issued.
- What is staff/teacher/administration discipline when using electronic devices with their classes outside of acceptable use? Ex. Youtube Fridays
- If a student loses their device as a result of a disciplinary action, will they be guaranteed an alternative method of completing their coursework? How long will they lose their device for?

Privacy

- PIP: Communications between teachers and students should be limited to methods that can be monitored.
- The district should provide both a system and a policy that the system be used for communication. (For example they shouldn't be texting each other - should use school email on Canvas. This is for protection of both teachers and students.)
- Don't just say "can be" monitored, "should be" monitored.
- Staff policy needs to reinforce that passwords must be private and cannot be set the same for multiple students for the convenience of the staff. (This is common practice in some schools today and is in direct conflict with the policy.)

Personal Safety

- Re: PIP
 - Bullet 2: Students will not use APS tech when they have been instructed not to do so. This should apply to personal cell phones too.
 - Bullet 5: Everyone should logout of accounts, etc.
 - Add bullet recommending students power down devices or minimally switch to "Airplane Mode" when not in use.
 - Reduce capacity/bandwidth needs on network/wifi
 - Reduce unnecessary exposure to EMF and wifi on growing brains and bodies.

- Reduce use of electricity both at home and school (charging devices)
- Health concerns:
 - If there are guidelines for physical activity and homework there should be guidelines limiting screen time.
 - The policy and PIP do not adequately address overall wellness for children. Most of their waking hours are at school or on the way to school. There must be guidelines for time in front of a personal device.
 - Personal devices should not be allowed in middle school, when social development really requires face-to-face interaction.

Care of Device

- ? - Proposed budget has repair fees?
- In the PIP: If parents opt-out of having their student take home their device, are accommodations guaranteed to ensure the student can still complete all their coursework?
- In the PIP, there is a typo in the last sentence:
 - “Parents may choose to **note** have their students take home their...”

Shared Responsibility

- Parents need a tool on the device to monitor what, when, how, (and) why their student is using their device. Maybe this exists in search history, but parents need training to know this is available.
- The ipads are forced onto families. Shared responsibility means there is a joint understanding of how it is to be used. However, I have found that we are way stricter at home than the teachers are. This poses enforcement issues. The ipad should be for school use only - not for listening to music or watching videos. It is completely unfair to put the onus on the parents to monitor usage when teachers do not. Also, there are certain apps and features we do not want our child to have (i.e. Garage Band). She is easily distracted and is not on grade level. She should not be spending the time on an app that is not directly related to her learning experience.

Non-Educational Use

- PIP - Can we allow parents to time/dial down non-educational use, for special circumstances perhaps?
- Re: Digital Divide - Should there be exceptions to this for low SES students who don't have a family device at home? (example - kid looking up doctors for a parent, social services, even shopping?) Suggest you provide examples of uses that comply with APS policy.
- Off network usage should be:
 - Unfiltered for high school off-network
 - Moderately filtered for middle school off-network
 - Rarely used off-network, and can be filtered off-network
- On network

- Heavily filtered to educational use only
- We need a moment app to quantify usage
- Eyes don't know the difference between “educational” and “entertainment” - linked to Myopia

Liability

- Last paragraph of PIP:
 - Who or how is (are) “unethical” practices defined? Seems too subjective to be subject of disciplinary action.
 - As a parent I expect certain warranties. If your technology is supposed to filter violent porn (literally what was written), but a bunch of kids access it anyway, who's responsible for the defect or error that allowed it? NO ONE?
- If use of technology is mandatory by teacher, then the “liability” section needs to provide an alternative for when the system is down, there are hardware or software problems. In short, we understand that APS cannot prevent all software/hardware problems, but there needs to be a mechanism to protect students from adverse consequences, otherwise we're not really closing the digital divide (e.g., kids with computers at home have an alternative, others do not).
- Example may be a policy to ensure all applications can be accessed from public network/web-based.

Parking Lot:

- Do parents have the choice to opt-out of having the ipad taken home?
- Needs to be some standard application by teachers.
- Policy and procedures read too similarly.
- Wifi is becoming more of a worldwide concern. Montgomery County, Maryland recommends not places devices on laps. (Exact wording)
- Links to myopia - must have a quantifier like moment app (home - school connection)
- We need a community discussion about staff policy and PIP - How are our kids learning w/ devices?
- Displaced Skills
 - Cursive
 - Handwriting
 - Keyboarding
 - Face-to-face interactions
 - Note-taking
- FIOS better than wifi b/c of radiation (France banned wifi for younger kids)
- Many apps are priming young kids for social media
 - Seesaw
 - Creating faux twitter accounts
- Why do some middle schools NOT allow screens during lunch?
- Limit screen time and prioritize real interactions and relationship building
- Research how kids use their devices

- Parents should be able to “tailor” access to apps and functions
- Standardizing lunch time use - Allowed at some middle schools and not at others?
- Be intentional about implementing a TRUE digital citizenship curriculum BEFORE deploying the devices.
- How do parents opt-out?
- How can I be assured my child’s eyesight is not being affected from duration on device?
- What about blue-light at night and homework? It affects sleep.
- Needs to be a policy provision to periodically reevaluate how devices affect children’s health.
- No screen time for end of day free time.
- How does this apply to devices brought from home (cell phones) used during lunch, etc.?