To: Parents/Guardians & Students

Fr: SMFHS Administration

Re: Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Policy

Stow-Munroe Falls High School will now permit the use of electronic devices in the educational setting at the discretion of school administrators and classroom teachers. As students continue academic and social growth as part of a 21st century society, it is essential that they become fluent and responsible consumers of technology and wed-based information. The Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) initiative will provide students with access to technology resources to support their academic growth and to help them further prepare for a wide range of professional opportunities that require competency and collaboration in a technology driven environment.

BYOT is considered an addition to the accepted and standard curriculum and is not a requirement. Students will not be penalized in any way for choosing not to participate in the initiative. For those students who choose to participate, it is essential to understand the allowance of technology also comes with great responsibility. When participating in B.Y.O.T., students must adhere to the Student Code of Conduct, as well as all Board of Education policies, particularly Stow-Munroe Falls City School District's Acceptable Use Policy. The policy reiterates that students who choose to use technology at school must abide by the established guidelines regarding acceptable use of the Internet, bullying, harassment, cheating, threats, student confidentiality and other misconduct that violates school rules or causes a disruption of educational activities. Please note that Stow-Munroe Falls High School is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen devices. As such, it is imperative that parents discuss this responsibility with their child.

The integration of technology into the classroom setting continues to enhance methods of student learning. Models of blended learning, online learning, and open source education allow our students endless opportunities for academic advancement. We are excited for this new opportunity and hope that families will collectively discuss the new policy together. Please find a detailed student usage graphic and extensive FAQ attached below. If you have any questions, feel free to call the SMFHS administration at 689-5202.

	Before/ After School	During Classes	Between Classes	Study Hall	Lunch	Media Center	Testing Scenarios
Progress Book/ School Email	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	✅	❌
Technology for Note-Taking	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	✅	❌
Talking on Phone	❌	❌	❌	❌	❌	❌	❌
Educational Apps/ Flash Cards	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	✅	❌
Headphones	✅	-Teacher- Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	✅	❌
Camera	❌	- Teacher - Decision	❌	❌	❌	❌	❌
Texting Parents	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	✅	❌
Texting	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	✅	❌
Games	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	-Teacher - Decision	❌
Social Media	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	- Teacher - Decision	✅	-Teacher - Decision	❌

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

1. **What types of technology can students bring to SMFHS?**

   Students may use laptops, tablets, netbooks, e-readers, and smart phones. Other forms of technology may also be permissible with prior administrative approval.

2. **How will students connect to the Internet?**

   The high school provides a powerful wireless network with multiple access points throughout the building. Students may also utilize an Internet connection through an outside provider (3G, etc.) Please note this alternative is an individual expense and will not be covered by the school.

3. **What software will be required?**

   There are no required software components. As a Google email school, we recommend the free platform of Google applications offered as part of this model.

4. **Who pays for the technology?**

   All devices will be purchased and will remain the property of the family.

5. **Will SMFHS still provide technology for those who do not or cannot participate?**

   Absolutely. We continue to strategically build an impressive selection of technology including PC's, laptops, Chrome Books, e-readers, iPads, SmartBoards, etc. for classroom use.

6. **Who is responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen technology?**

   All devices students bring to school are their sole responsibility. Families must stress the importance of security when participating in the BYOT program to ensure all precautions are followed. This includes locking lockers at all times, not lending technology to others, and not leaving technology in unsupervised areas.

7. **Will students have to sign the acceptable Internet use policy?**

   Yes. In order to participate in the BYOT initiative all students must sign and adhere to the policy.

8. **What actions are prohibited in the BYOT initiative?**

A student's "digital footprint" is a powerful thing. As our society grows more reliant on technology, it is important to remember that postings, pictures, videos, etc. are permanent. As such, students who disregard the Acceptable Internet Use policy and/or violate sections of the Student Code of Conduct will lose privileges entirely. In particular, use of camera phones is prohibited in the school zone. The use of any technology to videotape or photograph persons or school property without the prior expressed consent of a school official is strictly prohibited. Additionally, specific building zones are considered "tech free zones" at all times. These include restrooms, locker rooms, and all areas that are being utilized as testing zones.

9. **I am confused about BYOT in the classroom. How do I know if/when it is acceptable to use my device?**

The classroom teacher is the final decision-maker in regards to technology use in the classroom. The teacher will outline specific guidelines as to the technology policy for their classroom and will reiterate the policy often. **Not all teacher policies will look the same**. It is the student's responsibility to listen and grasp the policy of the classroom teacher. If a student is confused on classroom policy specifics, please ask that the policy is explained again. If the teacher finds use of the mobile device for off-task activities, students may lose the privilege to use the device at the teacher's discretion.

10. **With all of this discussion of responsible technology use and digital citizenship, what is the school doing to teach students about the power of technology?**

SMFHS is committed to ongoing education of these trends. Currently, students learn about these concepts across all aspects of our curriculum. We are also committed to ongoing education regarding smart decision making and social/emotional growth via technology. Some particular examples include:

Social Media Awareness- Health Curriculum
Successful Use of Digital Media- Library/Media Services
Digital-Based Research- English Curriculum
Technology and the Workplace- Business Curriculum
Committed Student Focus Groups- SMFHS Student Council and H.A.P.P.Y.