

**ACCEPTABLE USE OF PERSONALLY OWNED DEVICES
(BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE, BYOD)**

New Hanover County Board of Education understands that technology can be a key tool used to engage students and enable them to explore, investigate, research and solve problems and therefore, the Board approves the use of personally owned devices for educational purposes within the New Hanover County Schools (NHCS) learning environment.

A personally owned device shall include all existing and emerging technology devices that can take photographs, record audio or video, input text, upload and download media, and transmit or receive messages or images.

Gaming devices or consoles, laser pointers, modems or routers (wireless or wired), and Mifi devices are considered unacceptable devices for the purpose of BYOD. Headphones and earbuds may not be used in the classroom unless directed by the teacher.

Use of a personally owned device during the school day is to be done with the permission of the classroom teacher and is permitted for educational purposes only and/or in approved locations only.

NHCS reserves the right to monitor, confiscate, inspect, copy, review and restrict a personally owned device when a teacher and administration has a reasonable suspicion that a violation has occurred.

Technology may not be used to harass, threaten, demean, humiliate, intimidate, embarrass, or annoy others. This is unacceptable behavior known as cyber-bullying and shall not be tolerated. Any cyber-bullying that is determined to disrupt the safety and/or well-being of the school is subject to disciplinary action.

Students/staff/volunteers must be aware of appropriateness of communications when using personally owned devices. Inappropriate communication is prohibited in any public messages, private messages, and material posted online by students/staff/volunteers.

To protect the students' privacy, the Board expressly prohibits the use of personally owned devices in locker rooms, restrooms, and nurses offices.

Students/staff/volunteers are not required to participate in BYOD nor shall they be penalized for not participating.

NHCS employees shall not install software or apps on personally owned devices nor shall they attempt to repair personally owned devices.

NHCS shall not be liable for the loss, damage, misuse or theft of any personally owned device brought to school.

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA), personally owned devices used in school are not permitted to connect to the Internet through a 3G, 4G, or other content service providers. Personally owned devices must access the Internet via the District's content filtered wireless guest network.

LEGAL REF: Children's Internet Protection Act

CROSS REFS: [Policy 6086](#) Network and Internet Access for Staff
[Policy 6082](#) Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct
[Policy 7188](#) Network and Internet Safety for Students
[Policy 8410](#) Policies, Rules and Procedures Relative to Student Discipline in the New Hanover County Schools

Adopted: 09/03/13