BYOD TECHNOLOGY IN THE ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

I am pleased to inform you that our school is supporting BYOD, which means "bring your own device" – an opportunity for students and staff to bring their personally-owned information technology equipment into the classroom. Devices could include iPods©, iPads©, tablets, netbooks, chromebooks, laptops, etc. This program recognizes that our students' abilities to learn are enhanced when they use the equipment they prefer – their own. Of course, students who do not currently have their own devices will have continued access to our excellent school-provided equipment.

Our Board policy, Acceptable Use of Technology (http://www.st-clair.net/policies.aspx), revised in April 2013, encompasses personal devices and reflects the recent shift in Board's technology strategy. Participation in the BYOD program is optional and there will be no negative impact to your child should you decide that he/she will not participate.

Principal

BYOD Student, Teacher and Parent Expectations and Responsibilities

The Board is committed to moving staff and students forward in the 21st Century Learning environment and recognizes the important role of technology in helping students and staff research, collaborate, learn and communicate. The intention of BYOD is to permit the technology that staff and students are most familiar with, their own, to be incorporated into the school's learning environment with access a separate BYOD internet-only bound network and augment their classroom toolkit.

This will be a learning process as teachers receive training on different ways to utilize technology in the classroom and students become more comfortable with utilizing the web for most activities. Technology isn't meant to replace teaching but enhance the learning process.

The use of technology must be respectful, ethical, appropriate and legal at all times and be consistent with the teachings of the Catholic Faith. With the privilege of this access, come expectations and responsibilities as outlined below.

- ❖ The Board's policies and procedures apply and will be adhered to when using personally-owned technology
- ❖ In the near future, with each logon to the wireless BYOD network, staff and students will be required to electronically acknowledge and agree to an Acceptable Use Agreement by clicking ACCEPT on the logon web page.
- ❖ The BYOD network being provided is not the same network normally accessed from a school-owned computer
- ❖ Personally-owned devices are prohibited from accessing networks by plugging directly into any port
- ❖ **Classroom <u>teacher approval is required</u> for students to use their own devices in the classroom; access is available but is not guaranteed and will be granted when teachers believe it is useful for instruction.**
- ❖ The BYOD network is filtered to minimize the possibility of accessing inappropriate content
- ❖ The ideal device would allow students to access the internet, complete word processing documents and have a battery life that would last the school day.
- ❖ Technical problems with staff or student's personal equipment **will not** to be addressed by Board staff
- ❖ Software may run differently on different devices for varying reasons. Consult your user manual for software limitations
- ❖ Printing will not be available from equipment brought into the school as local print drivers are not installed
- ❖ The Board is not responsible for:
  - o Theft of or damage to a device while at school
  - o Usage fees incurred when used at school
  - o Maintenance and support of the devices
- ❖ Devices with camera, audio or video recording capabilities are <u>absolutely prohibited</u> in areas where there is an increased expectation of privacy; audio or video recordings are not permitted without appropriate prior consent
- ❖ Internet usage will be monitored by the Board and can be defined by user
- ❖ If inappropriate use of personal equipment is suspected, access to this network will be terminated
- ❖ Violation of the Responsible Use Agreement will be handled in accordance with the applicable Board policy

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In order to ensure that no student is precluded from participating in this project, the Board will have equipment available for use by students who cannot provide or opt not to use their personally-owned technology to participate in this project.

I have read and agree to abide by the expectations and responsibilities outlined for the BYOD Program as outlined on the prior page and give my son/daughter _____ in grade _____ permission to participate in the BYOD program.

Please check the appropriate box below:

My son/daughter will ☐   bring his/her personally-owned technology to school

Parent/Guardian Name   _____   _____   _____
                                          Print   Signature   Date

Student Name   _____   _____   _____
                                          Print   Signature   Date

Return the signed and completed form to the school to participate.

The summary of expectations and responsibilities in the form of Frequently Asked Questions will be posted to the Board's website at www.st-clair.net. Search BYOD to locate the information.

PLEASE NOTE: Older devices may not be capable to connect to the BYOD network due to technical limitations of the devices. PSPs and some basic tablets are not able to connect for this reason as well.

Board Policy: Responsible Use of Technology is posted to the Board's public website under Board/Policies/Administration.