

Van Wert City Schools Bring Your Own Device (Student Policy)

Electronic Devices

The use of certain electronic devices is permitted in Van Wert City Schools as described below. Electronic devices are classified as **disruptive**, **non-disruptive**, and **mobile phone** devices. Permissibility of each type of electronic device is described as follows:

Disruptive Electronic Devices

1. Recording devices, radios, pagers, laser pointers, mp3 players, and other electronic devices are deemed distracting to the educational environment.
 - Use of cameras on non-disruptive devices and cell phones, to take still pictures or video, **is not permitted** on school grounds, including transportation, unless under the direction and supervision of school personnel.
2. The misuse of permissible electronic devices in a manner distracting to other students or school personnel is not allowed. The misuse of electronic devices includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Use of any electronic device in a classroom or other area of Van Wert City Schools not authorized by school personnel.
 - b. Violation of the Van Wert City Schools' Acceptable Use Policy.

Non-Disruptive Devices

1. Non-Disruptive devices are defined as electronic devices primarily used for educational purposes.
2. The categories of non-disrupted devices are (a) laptops, (b) netbooks, (c) tablets, (d) and eReaders.
3. These devices may be used during classroom instruction, the Media Center, and lunch as permitted and directed by school personnel.

Mobile Phones

1. Mobile phones may be used as directed by school personnel.
2. Mobile phones may possess advanced functions including Internet access, eReader, and video/audio functions. Use of these functions during classroom instruction is at the discretion of school personnel.

Consequences for inappropriate use of electronic devices

Violation of the appropriate use of electronic devices, as described above,

1. may result in detentions, In School Suspension, or Out of School Suspension; and
2. student may be required to turn the device over to school personnel and the student and/or parent may pick up the device from the Principal's Office at the end of the school day.

Internet Connection

Wireless Internet connection will be provided by the Van Wert City Schools for students to connect their devices to the Internet. Students must have a completed Acceptable Use Policy signed and on file at Van Wert City Schools.

Personal Responsibility

Students who bring their personally owned technology/device to school are responsible for the equipment. Van Wert City Schools assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, or damage of an electronic device brought to school. School or District Technician's will not service or repair any technology/device not belonging to the District. Students who bring personally owned devices and use the VWCS network should also have no expectation of privacy including files or email.

Specific Use Guidelines

1. Students that choose to bring items of value to school must understand the school is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items.
2. Each teacher will determine if these devices will be used in their classroom. If a teacher chooses to allow BYOD, the teacher will provide a written policy that all students in the classroom will be expected to follow.
3. Students must not take any picture of another student during the school day without that student's consent. Students must not post pictures and/or comments on a social networking site during the course of a school day.
4. Music devices will be worn using only ONE ear bud at all times within the school building. No headphones of any style are allowed during the school day.
5. At any teacher or staff member request, BYOD will be turned off or silenced and put away until further notice.
6. Any violation of acceptable use may result in disciplinary action from either the teacher or administration.

WARNING

Sexting – It is the practice of taking, possessing, or transmitting nude or explicit pictures especially by cell phones or other BYOD. If the subject(s) of the nude pictures are minors, very serious school and legal consequences may take place. School authorities are bound by law to report all cases of sexual abuse and child exploitation to the police. Depending on the age of the subjects and how explicit the pictures, a person possessing nude pictures on an electronic device could be charged with child exploitation or child pornography along with suspension and possible expulsion from school. Conviction of the criminal charges is a felony and could lead to being placed on a community sex offender list.