

# Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)



## FORRESTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) is an optional program for students at Forreston High School. Participation in this program allows students in grades 9 - 12 to bring their own electronic devices to school to use for instructional purposes, provided all proper authorizations are complete.

To help your discussions at home, please review the following QUESTIONS & ANSWERS, providing more detailed information regarding the program.

### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

**1. Why is the district implementing “Bring Your Own Technology” (BYOT) at Forreston High School?**

A BYOT program allows students to use technology they are most familiar with and have readily accessible throughout their daily schedules. Students in BYOT programs demonstrate greater responsibility and care for the devices and eliminate duplicate devices.

**2. Is this a required program?**

No, this is an *optional* program for students in grades 9 - 12.

**3. What are the technology device options for student use?**

Students may continue to use a Chromebook provided by Forreston High School *or* bring their own technology device to school.

**4. What if my student does not participate in the BYOT program?**

BYOT is an *optional* program. Chromebooks will still be provided to students wishing to access district-owned technology. However, students utilizing district technology will be assessed an annual \$35 Technology Fee with registration.

**5. When are students allowed to use devices?**

Students will be allowed to use their own devices or district-issued devices during instructional time as well as non-instructional time, as appropriate. Devices will not be allowed in private areas, such as locker rooms or bathroom facilities.

**6. What types of devices may be brought to school under BYOT?**

Any mobile device that can connect to the district wireless network is acceptable under BYOT, including smart phones, iPods, iPads, Chromebooks, tablets, or other laptops.

**7. Who pays for BYOT?**

Parents pay for and provide the student device under the BYOT program.

**8. If I am thinking of purchasing a device for my child, what should I consider?**

There is no recommended device endorsed by the district.

**9. If my student participates in BYOT, are there certain programs/apps they will be required to pre-install?**

Yes, there are FREE programs/apps that need to be installed on each student's device for instructional purposes. These free apps are available from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Please be sure to install the following prior to the first day of school: Skyward, Google Classroom, Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Slides, and Google Drive. For assistance with installation please contact Mr. Hartman in the technology office.

**10. How will stolen or damaged BYOT devices be handled?**

The district is not responsible for stolen or damaged devices under BYOT.

**11. If something is wrong with my child's BYOT device, who fixes it?**

The district is not able to support each individual BYOT student device. The parent is responsible for any and all repairs.

**12. How will students accessing inappropriate websites during school hours be handled?**

All students participating in the BYOT program and using district-issued devices are required to access the district network system through the free wireless system. The district system allows for proper internet filtering. Students are not allowed to use individual data plans during school hours. Students not utilizing the district network system will be subject to student discipline as listed in the Parent/Student Handbook.

**13. Who should I contact for questions?**

Mr. Hartman, Director of Technology, may be contacted at 815-938-2195 or [thartman@fvdistrict221.org](mailto:thartman@fvdistrict221.org).