

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AGREEMENT GOVERNING THE USE OF PRIVATELY-OWNED TECHNOLOGY

The Newton Public Schools recognize that students may benefit from the use of privately-owned technology devices during school hours for approved educational purposes. Therefore, the Newton Board of Education will allow students to use their privately-owned technology devices during school hours in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth below.

1. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term “technology” is defined as any electronic hardware and/or software. “Hardware is any device that can store, access, retrieve, and/or communicate data or information; including, but not limited to, any type of computer device, wireless telephone, electronic reader, personal digital assistant, video broadcasting and/or recording device, or camera. “Software” is any computer program or related application that provides instruction for telling a computer or other hardware device what to do and how to do it. The term “privately-owned” means hardware or software that is purchased, owned, and maintained by the student, at no expense to the school district.
2. The student may not use privately-owned technology in the educational program during the day without prior approval of the student’s parent and the teaching staff member responsible for supervising and/or providing the student’s instructional program. The teaching staff member may approve or prohibit the use of privately-owned technology based on the assignment to the student. The teaching staff member may approve the use of privately-owned technology only when such use does not provide any advantage or benefit to students who possess such technology over students who do not possess such technology.
3. Wired and wireless content-filtered Internet service is provided to students to use for educational purposes at district expense. Therefore, the district shall assume no responsibility for any cellular data charges incurred by students who either knowingly or unknowingly disable or circumvent the wifi on their cellular-capable devices by connecting to fee-for-service Internet providers over cellular networks.
4. All privately-owned technology must be in silent mode during instructional time unless specifically indicated otherwise by a teaching staff member. Students are prohibited from photographing or videoing anything or anyone, unless the photograph or recording is approved and supervised by a teaching staff member. Similarly, students are expressly prohibited from using privately-owned technology during standardized testing. Students shall not transmit, post, or otherwise publicly share photographs or videos that they have taken of any person on school grounds.
5. Any use of privately-owned technology by the student must be in strict compliance with the teaching staff member’s approval, and the district’s policies and regulations regarding acceptable use of computers and technology. **Any violation will subject the student to appropriate disciplinary and/or academic consequences.**
6. The Newton Public Schools assume no responsibility for any privately-owned technology brought to school by the student. The student will be solely responsible for the proper care, operation and use of privately owned-technology brought to school. School staff members shall not be responsible for the effective use and/or technical support, maintenance or repair of any privately-owned technology. The Newton Public Schools assume no responsibility for the security of, or damage to, any privately-owned technology brought to school by the student.

I agree to use privately-owned technology in a manner consistent with school district policies and regulations, including the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement. As the parent of the student, I have read and agree to the terms and conditions governing the use of privately-owned technology.

Student Name: _____

School: _____

Student Signature: _____

Grade: _____

Parent Signature: _____