

BYOD

Bring Your Own Device



**BLACK GOLD
REGIONAL
DIVISION NO. 18**

Phone: 780.955.6025

www.blackgold.ca



HOW PARENTS CAN PARTNER WITH US FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

21st Century

At Black Gold Regional Division No. 18 (BGRD), our mission is to "Inspire Success" with student-focused learning, relationships, supportive environments, passion, and by managing resources responsibly.

Today's education calls for more student-centered, personalized, authentic learning experiences that will result in youth becoming engaged thinkers and ethical citizens with an entrepreneurial spirit.

BGRD encourages creative and innovative learning. One of the ways that we encourage this is through the use of technology in education, helping to prepare students for the world beyond the classroom.



BYOD helps students "power up" for success

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), BYOT (Technology), and BYOP (Phone) are all similar acronyms for initiatives where students bring their own devices to school for educational purposes. In the classroom, students will use devices responsibly and only with the permission and direction of the teacher or other staff members. Of course, technology alone will not improve learning – but when combined with the right instruction from skilled staff, amazing things can happen. The use of technology in Black Gold Regional Schools (BGRS) and classrooms will “power up” student success today and for the future.

Our guiding policy



We know that not all parents can or want to send their child/teen to school with a device. That's why teachers continue to plan assuming that not every student will bring a personally owned device to school. Technology will not be used every day for every lesson. There is a right time and place.

Devices and other technology are available for students to use at school and all students will have access to technology in their classrooms. Generally the Division will provide a device for two-thirds (2/3) of the students or for students that do not have a device, forget their device, or choose not to bring one when classes require them.

BGRD's Technology Vision: We envision classrooms where readily available digital tools and resources engage learners and teachers in the collaborative pursuit of challenging and personalized learning experiences. Students will demonstrate ethically responsible use of digital tools reflective of today's global, digital world.



WHY WE ENCOURAGE PERSONALLY OWNED DEVICES

- Students are usually experts with the device they have, and customize it to their learning needs.
- Students can use it to learn anytime, anywhere and personalize their learning.
- Students can collaborate with their peers after school about their school work.
- Students and parents have choice and control over their technology.

Devices support learning

Teachers and students across the Division have been using portable devices, laptops and netbooks in classrooms since 2008. This has helped prepare them for the increasingly common sight of technology in the students' hands such as tablets, cell phones, laptops, and even gaming systems that come to school with internet access.

Technology has helped to shape the learning landscape, and teachers have been using it, when appropriate, to increase higher order thinking skills, collaboration, and personalized learning.

Today, students and teachers can access web-based content, resources, experts, research and collaboration tools that would be difficult without BYOD.

Here are some of the ways students may use devices:

Division 1 (K to Grade 3)

- vocabulary development
- accessing websites
- online manipulatives
- photography and video creation
- curriculum-based games/apps

Division 2 (Grades 4 to 6)

- accessing websites/research
- photography and video creation
- document and presentation creation/editing
- curriculum-based games/apps
- wikis, blogs, podcasts
- note-taking
- vocabulary development
- charting/digital drawing
- online manipulatives
- project enhancement
- planner/calendar
- maps
- polling
- video conferencing

Division 3 (Grades 7 to 9)

- accessing websites/research
- photography and video creation
- document and presentation creation/editing
- curriculum-based games/apps
- wikis, blogs, podcasts
- note-taking
- vocabulary development
- calculation/graphing activities
- online manipulatives/simulations
- project enhancement
- planner/calendar
- maps
- polling/surveying
- video conferencing

Division 4 (Grades 10 to 12)

- accessing websites/research
- photography and video creation
- document and presentation creation/editing
- curriculum-based games/apps
- wikis, blogs, podcasts, networking
- Office productivity e.g. spreadsheets
- calculation/graphing activities
- online manipulatives/simulations
- CAD/CAM Design
- animation
- GIS/maps
- polling/surveying
- video conferencing



Choosing a device

Parents have asked us, “**What device should I buy for my child/teen?**”. There’s no “one size fits all”. Ultimately, as parents, the decision about what device to purchase (if you choose to send your child to school with a device) is yours. However, the following tips may aid your decision.

Please consider:

- grade and/or subject area
- how the technology will be used in the classroom
- teacher recommendations
- your child/teen’s learning preferences
- comfort with the device
- price

When selecting a device, the student should do some shopping and try some of the activities they are expected to complete in class. Example:

- send an email using Gmail
- edit a Google document
- take a picture and save it to Google Drive
- install an app or program
- change settings such as Wi-Fi
- test keyboard for comfort and fit

The following hardware configurations should also be considered:

- portability/weight
- battery life
- screen clarity in various lighting conditions
- placement of cameras
- Wi-Fi connection speeds

WE DO NOT RECOMMEND GAMING DEVICES.

We do recommend that you look for a device with rugged construction features to withstand the rigors of the classroom, a fast start-up time, a good battery, and a protective case.

BGRD supplied devices:

Currently, the Division supplies Chromebooks or Netbooks for Grades 1 - 12, Desktop Lab for Grades 10 - 12 specialized classes such as CTS Photo and Video editing, CAD Design, etc., and some Tablets in elementary schools.

Current Chromebooks:

Lenovo N21 Device Specifications

- 11.6" HD LED Anti-Glare (1366 x 768)
- Intel® Celeron N2840 (Dual core, 1M Cache, up to 2.58GHz)
- Chrome OS
- 4 GB
- 16GB SSD and optional Google Cloud Storage
- 2 - in - 1 card reader (SD/MMC)
- Full HDMI
- 1x USB 3.0
- 1xUSB 2.0
- Rotatable 720p HD
- 802.11 A/C WiFi, Bluetooth
- Up to 9.5 hours replaceable battery
- 2.8 lbs

Special Offer for BGRS Families

Each fall the Division will secure a special offer for parents to purchase a device at the Division’s cost directly from the supplier. BGRD will communicate this offer out to individual schools and parents once it becomes available.

This special offer will be on the same devices that are purchased by the Division. This is an affordable option for parents to purchase a device for BYOD, but it in no way limits the parent to only this model. BYOD is just that, your own device that you have chosen. This may be a Chromebook (BGRD’s current preferred device) but it could also be a tablet or a full laptop computer. These are decisions that need to be made by the parent with their children.

The Division and the individual schools will not be managing personal student devices in any way. It will function just like the Division’s Chromebooks but without Division management. Students will be able to install apps and access the internet just as any other personal device.

If you have any questions, or for more information on this year’s offer, please contact ray.mccubbing@blackgold.ca.

[CLICK HERE FOR OUR ADMIRABLE USE POLICY](#)

Students learn good citizenship

Students are going to live and work in a world where people use their devices regularly. They need to learn to use technology safely, effectively, ethically, and respectfully. Appropriate use of the device is always a concern, and the division's admirable use policy provides expectations for student use of technology.

Our computer policy is built on respect and protection of self, others, and property. All students agree to the admirable use document prior to accessing the internet. This agreement is divided into Grade groups, K - 4 and 5 -12.

The Admirable use Policy applies to the use of technology whether students are accessing information from school or home.

Students should respect and protect themselves online, they should respect and protect others, and they should respect and protect other people's property.

Wireless network: free and accessible

BGRD's wireless network is free to access. Websites that have inappropriate content such as violence, adult content, or hatred are filtered on our wireless network. Filtering does vary by school and grade based on educational needs as directed by the school principal.

We suggest you contact your child's principal to learn more about what is specifically filtered at your school such as gaming sites and social networks.

Personal data plans do impact our ability to filter

The Division and the individual schools will not be managing student devices in any way. Students will be able to install apps and access the internet just as any other personal device.

If students cannot gain access to the content they want using our network because of filters in place, they may circumvent our filters by using their own data plan and network to connect to the internet and can even share that access with other student devices.

Because of this growing unbridled access, BGRD feels that education is the key to managing technology use.

Resources & Education

We recommend parents use resources such as Media Smarts and Common Sense Education network to familiarize themselves with some of the issues that young people face in the digital age. Many classroom digital citizenship lessons are built around guidelines from these sources.

- [Your Connected Life](#) - a teen's guide to life online from Media Smarts
- [Center of Media and Child Health](#)
- [Teach Thought](#) - 20 BYOD resources for 21st century schools

Plan to keep devices secure

As parents, you're concerned about your child keeping his/her device safe. Typically, we see few thefts and lost devices. Schools will have a plan to help students keep their devices secured. Ultimately, though, students are responsible for lost, stolen and/or damaged personal electronic devices, just as they are for any other personal items they bring to school. Some devices have a built-in locator that you should enable.

Parental Controls & Monitoring

As BYOD devices become more common in classrooms, here are a number of ways that parents can monitor or control aspects of their child's use. This may include internet browsing time and app usage. Depending on the operating system (OS), there are ways to achieve a balance.

iOS devices offer some parenting controls built into the operating system. It allows you to restrict applications and their ability to install new apps. This will apply to all users of the device as iOS are personal devices.

To access the parent controls: Settings > General > Restrictions

At this point you will see a list of the apps and settings on the device that you are able to restrict. The toggle is used to turn on or off.

It will ask you to create a passcode for admin access to enable this feature.

Click [here](#) for Apple support link.



Android OS 4.3 and later also offers some parental controls.

Multiple users can be created, and some users can be restricted.

To access: Settings > Users > Add User

At this point create a restricted profile.

It will have you create a lock code and then will provide an app list to allow individual apps to be toggled on or off.

All users will need to have their own lock code in order to access the device.



If you have purchased a **Chromebook** for your child, there are options for controlling access on it as well.

Visit "[Creating and Managing Supervised Users](#)" in Google Chrome help.

This will allow the supervisor to block certain websites, see history of sites visited, and prevent modifications to the device settings.



Several **apps** are available in both the iOS and Android stores, we suggest researching available apps to suit your needs. Screen Time app in iOS and Android OS is one example. It is available for both iOS and Android and allows the parent to place time limits on the device.

Parental control capabilities do vary by OS and the Android version does appear to allow more control by allowing the parent to remotely pause the device, add homework and tasks and several other controls.

It will turn the internet off or restrict access to an app when time is up. It will also notify the parent when the limits are reached and allow the parent to grant access for more time remotely from their device.

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