

The Village Charter School No. 473

STUDENTS

3275

Charter School Provided Mobile Computing Devices

The Village Charter School is committed to providing a safe, rigorous, and engaging learning environment that prepares all students to be career and college ready. Accessing and using technological resources is one of the cornerstones of a 21st century education. This document describes the rules for acceptable use of School-issued mobile computing devices on and off School premises. Using these resources responsibly will promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, fostering creativity, and promoting communication in a safe, secure environment for all users.

Distributing Mobile Computing Devices

Before they are issued a mobile computing device, each student must submit an executed Student Agreement for Mobile Computing Device Use and a copy of the Internet Access Conduct Agreement. Each form must be signed by the student and by their parent/guardian if they are less than 18 years of age.

The Charter School may provide parent orientations on the mobile computing device program. A student's parents/guardians are encouraged to attend an orientation before the student takes a device home with them.

Parents/guardians of students may use the School-issued device, and their involvement in student learning through technology is strongly encouraged. However, use of School-issued technology outside of this purpose, such as for personal gain or activities unrelated to student learning, is prohibited. Both parent and student use of the School's device, network, and software may be subject to a public records request depending upon the content of the document or communication, including email.

Students may take the devices out of Idaho at the discretion of the building principal. The School directs the School Administrator to establish procedures for students to request permission to take the device with them.

At the end of the school year, the School will collect all devices from students. At the School's discretion, students may be issued devices to support summer school programs.

The School Administrator shall establish procedures for the maintenance of records regarding the devices, including tracking device inventory and which device is issued to which student.

Care and Safety

Students are responsible for the general care of the device they have been issued by the Charter School and are expected to observe the following precautions:

1. No food or drink is allowed next to a device while it is in use;
2. Insert and remove cords, cables, and removable storage devices carefully;
3. Shut down the device when not in use to conserve battery life;
4. Stickers, drawings, or permanent markers may not be used on the device;
5. Do not vandalize the devices or any other School property;
6. Devices must never be left in any unsupervised area.
7. Students are responsible for keeping their device's battery charged for School each day;
8. Do not place anything near the device that could put pressure on the screen;
9. Clean the screen with an anti-static cloth or any other soft, dry cloth; and
10. Devices should not be stored in a student's vehicle, or anyplace else subject to extreme temperatures.

The School Administrator will designate an individual or office where the devices must be taken if they break or fail to work properly.

Use at School

If students leave their device at home, they may phone their parent/guardian to bring it to the School. Students without a device will use a computer in the classroom or a device from the lending pool depending upon availability and at the administrator's discretion. This includes students whose devices are undergoing repair.

Sound must be muted or headsets must be used at all times unless the teacher directs otherwise.

Students may use printers in classrooms, the library, and computer labs with teachers' permission during class or breaks. All printing should be limited to educational purposes.

Personalizing Mobile Computing Devices

While at no time does the device become the personal property of students or staff, students may place individualized items on the device, which are limited to music, pictures, and other items that do not hinder the network or device functionality.

Students may be permitted to select their own screen savers and backgrounds provided they are appropriate. Screensavers, backgrounds, or other pictures containing guns, weapons, pornographic materials, inappropriate language, alcohol, drugs, gang related symbols or pictures, the student's password or other items deemed inappropriate by the administration will result in disciplinary actions.

Students may not add options or upgrades to the device, change the operating system, or add unauthorized software or safety controls.

Should students or parents/guardians place personalized items on the device, such items may be accessed or viewed by School staff at any time, for any reason, including randomly selected device reviews. No content placed on School provided devices is privileged or confidential.

Managing Files

Once details are known about the availability of file space that is shared or is backed up automatically, the School Administrator will set a procedure for where students and teachers should save important documents.

Software

The software originally installed by the Charter School must remain on the device in usable condition and be easily accessible at all times.

From time to time the School may add or update software applications. The licenses for this software sometimes require that the software be deleted from devices at the completion of a course. Periodic reviews of devices will be made to ensure that students have deleted software that is no longer required in class and that the School has not exceeded its licenses.

All devices will be equipped with anti-virus protection software which will be upgraded regularly.

It is the responsibility of individual students to be aware of additional software programs and files loaded onto their device which are required for classes or School activities.

Students wishing to load additional software onto a device must first obtain the permission of the School's technology department. Any additional software must be appropriate for the School environment and comply with the Internet Access Conduct Agreement. Violent games and device images containing obscene or pornographic material are banned. The technology department shall determine whether a game is violent, and the student may appeal this decision to the principal. Each student is responsible for ensuring that only licensed software is loaded onto his or her device.

Inspection and Filtering

Filtering software will be used to prevent access to material considered inappropriate or harmful to minors.

Internet filtering software or other technology-based protection systems may be disabled by a supervising teacher or School administrator, as necessary, for purposes of bona fide research or other educational projects being conducted by students age 18 and older.

Electronic mail, network usage, and all stored files shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated School staff to ensure appropriate use. The School will cooperate fully with local, State, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to violations of law.

Remote Access of Devices

Devices may be equipped with the ability to be accessed remotely in the case of technical problems requiring remote assistance, missing or stolen devices, or other for any other appropriate Charter School purpose. A student does not need to be asked for permission prior to remote software maintenance.

Acceptable Use

Access to the devices is a privilege and not a right. Each employee, student, and parent will be required to follow the Internet Access Conduct Agreement and the Acceptable Use of Electronic Networks Policy. Violation of these policies, whether by the student or another party, while the device is in student custody may result in disciplinary action for the student, possible revocation of device privileges, and/or contacting law enforcement authorities.

Protecting and Storing Devices

Students are expected to password protect their devices and shall keep their password confidential.

When students are not using their devices, the devices should be stored in their lockers. Students are encouraged to take their devices home every day after School.

Under no circumstances should devices be left in unsupervised areas. Unsupervised areas include the School grounds, the cafeteria, computer lab, locker rooms, library, unlocked classrooms, dressing rooms, and hallways. Unsupervised devices will be confiscated by staff and taken to the building principal's office. Disciplinary action may be taken for leaving a device in an unsupervised location.

Repair of Devices

Students are to report all device problems to Charter School technology personnel or the School administrator.

The School Administrator will issue a document clarifying student or parent responsibility for lost and damaged devices when the details of the School's insurance policy are known.

Legal References: Pub. L. 106-554 CIPA Public Law Number
 47 U.S.C. § 254(h) Telecommunications Services for Certain Providers
 47 U.S.C. § 254(l) Internet Safety Policy Requirement for Schools and
 Libraries

Other References: Technology Task Force Final Task Force Recommendations

Policy History:

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