

BHMSD 1:1 Digital Learning Initiative – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

(This document is subject to change as we move through the process – last updated on July 23, 2014)

1. What is the 1:1 Digital Learning Initiative at BHMSD?
 - All students will be immersed in a technology rich environment, which motivates, engages, and challenges students to learn 21st century skills, as it will be an integral part of virtually every aspect of daily life.
 - Every student in the school district will receive an iPad at the start of the school year.

2. Why is BHMSD going to a 1:1 initiative?
 - The mission of the Bluffton-Harrison M.S.D. 1:1 Digital Learning Initiative is to use technology effectively to increase student engagement thereby increasing student achievement in all areas.
 - At BHMSD we feel technology is a tool that can enhance learning and allow students to grow into 21st century learners. We realize that we currently do not have enough technology in the district for our students and teachers to all have access to this technology as much as they would like, and many students do not have access to this technology at home.

3. Did the school district research and visit other school districts that have already implemented 1:1 initiatives to help with decision-making?
 - Absolutely. BHMSD formed a technology committee that included administrators, teachers, and technology staff members from all three schools that met on a regular basis to discuss the best options for the district. In addition, the committee has made many phone calls, e-mails, and visits to outside school districts to assist in our decision making process.

4. What iPad will my student receive?
 - All students will receive the latest release of the Apple iPad (3rd Generation). Students in grades K-4 will receive a white 16GB WIFI only iPad and students in grades 5-12 will receive a black 32GB WIFI only iPad.

5. Why were iPads selected?
 - We selected the Apple iPad because it is far and away the market leader when it comes to tablets. We feel it is also the most reliable and best option for education. Apple is a leading innovator of technology and the iPad is being used to facilitate many of their new ideas for education such as iBooks textbooks. In addition, Apple has implemented thousands of 1:1 programs across the country and understands the challenges schools face in 1:1 implementation.

6. Will students be able to take iPads home?
 - Students in grades 5-12 will be able to take their iPads home with them each night.
 - Students in grades K-4 will leave their iPads at school in their classroom.

7. When will I get my iPad and what do I need to have to pick it up?
- Students in grades K-4 will receive their iPads in class the first day of school.
 - Students in grades 5-12 may pick up iPads at the following summer informational meetings at the Bluffton High School Cafetorium:

| Grade | Date | Time |
|--|------------|-----------------------|
| 5 th Grade | August 7th | 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. |
| 6 th Grade | August 7th | 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. |
| 7 th Grade | August 5th | 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. |
| 8 th Grade | August 5th | 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. |
| 9 th Grade | August 7th | 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. |
| 10 th Grade | August 7th | 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. |
| 11 th Grade | August 5th | 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. |
| 12 th Grade | August 5th | 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. |
| <i>*Households with students in multiple grade levels need only attend one meeting.</i> | | |

- Prior to being issued an iPad, students must do one of the following:
 1. Purchase a protective case from BHMSD, which will be available immediately following the informational meeting.
 - a. The discounted cost for this protective case is \$20.00 compared to the normal online price of \$44.99.
 2. Bring your own approved protective case to the meeting to use with your iPad.
 - a. Make sure the case you purchase is for the latest version of the iPad (may be called “iPad3”, “3rd Generation iPad”, or “New iPad”).
- **Students cannot take home an iPad without being protected in an approved case.**
- For students who have not picked up their iPad prior to the first day of school, an iPad will be issued one on the first day of school. The cost of the \$20.00 case will be added to the student’s textbook rental statement.

8. What is considered an approved protective case?

- All cases must be designed for the latest version of the iPad and provide protection for the:
 1. Front
 2. Back
 3. Corners

9. Will students need a Bluetooth keyboard for their iPad?

- No. Our research through school visits and student interviews found that students are more comfortable using the on-screen keyboard. We recommend parents delay any decision to buy a Bluetooth keyboard until a student is familiar with using the iPad.

10. How much will students be charged for textbook/technology fees?
- In grades K-4, students will have a yearly textbook fee of \$120. Students who qualify for financial aid will have this fee waived.
 - In grades 5-12, students will have a yearly textbook fee of \$165. Students who qualify for financial aid will have this fee waived.

11. When do we have to pay our Textbook/Technology fees?
- Textbook/Technology statements will be issued in late August and payment in full will be expected within 30 days.

12. What if the student is unable to pay the Textbook/Technology fee within 30 days?
- BHMSD will work with all students on payment plans (see below).

| | September | October | November |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Payment Amount (K-4) | \$40 | \$40 | \$40 |
| Payment Amount (5-12) | \$55 | \$55 | \$55 |

- We also encourage all families to apply for financial aid if they believe they may qualify.

13. Will the iPad belong to the student?
- No. The iPad will remain property of BHMSD. Students will be assigned an iPad just like they would a textbook.

14. Will the students in grades 5-12 be able to take the iPad home over the summer break?
- No. The iPads will be collected on the last day of school so that they can be upgraded with new apps, cleaned, and repaired if needed.

15. What happens if my iPad stops working?
- The BHMSD Technology Department will be responsible for all repairs on the iPads. A request will be made to the technology help desk and they will be responsible for repairing the iPad. Depending on the issue, the student may be provided with a loaner iPad while their iPad is being repaired.

16. What insurance or warranty is provided for the iPad?
- No insurance is provided; however, BHMSD is providing an extended product warranty for the remaining years of rental.

17. What happens if my iPad is physically damaged?
- Normal maintenance and repair issues will be covered by BHMSD. However, when damages are determined to have been caused by not following safety procedures outlined by the BHMSD Responsible Use Policy, the student will be responsible for all charges associated with the repair of the iPad.

18. Repair costs for accidental and intentional damage is below:

| | Broken Screen | Headphone Jack Replacement | Other |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| First Damage | \$50.00 | \$50.00 | Repair cost or \$50.00, whichever is less |
| Subsequent Damage | Repair Cost | Repair Cost | Repair Cost |
| Intentional | Repair Cost | Repair Cost | Repair Cost |
| <p><i>*Any issue covered by the standard warranty of the iPad will result in no charge to the student.</i> <i>*School administrators are responsible for determining if the damage is accidental or intentional.</i> <i>*Repair costs are subject to change.</i></p> | | | |

19. What happens if my iPad is lost or stolen?

- If an iPad is lost or stolen at school the student must immediately notify a teacher, administrator, or BHMSD Technology Staff. **The earlier school personnel are notified, the greater the chance of it being found.** Students can also visit the <https://www.icloud.com/> website and use the “Find my iPhone” feature which will allow you to possibly locate your iPad, e-mail you when it connects to WIFI, or set off an alarm on your iPad. If the iPad is lost or stolen outside of school, the police must be contacted immediately and the school principal must be notified. The student will be responsible for the cost of replacing the iPad at the current value of the iPad at the time if it cannot be located.

20. What safety procedures should be followed for the iPad?

- When transporting the iPad, it must be kept in the case that is provided or purchased. Screens can be wiped with a lint free cloth. Abrasive or liquid cleaners must not be used.

21. Are students allowed to use their iPad for personal use?

- Students who have an iPad in grades 5-12 can use the iPad as they wish for their own personal use for any legal activities that comply with the BHMSD Responsible Use Policy. Students can install apps and music that they legally own as long as they have the hard drive space to support it. If a student has questions about what they can or cannot do, please contact a teacher, administrator, or a member of the BHMSD Technology Department.

22. What if a student doesn't have Internet at home?

- Teachers are aware that not all students have Internet access at home and will provide accommodations when necessary for students without home Internet access.
- There is free public wireless Internet at the BHMSD Campus, Wells County Public Library, and area restaurants.

23. How will my student be protected while on the Internet?
- While the iPad is on an Internet connection provided by BHMSD, access will be filtered to meet federal guidelines, as has been our past practice.
 - While the iPad is on an Internet connection provided outside of BHMSD, we are unable to filter that content. In these cases, Internet activity is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
24. How can I help keep my student safe on the Internet while not at school?
- Parental Control Apps and Safe Internet Browsers for the iPad are available in Apple's App Store. In addition, BHMSD provides a mobile filter that extends the school's filter to outside of school use.
25. What happens if a student leaves BHMSD during the school year?
- Students will be required to return their assigned iPad along with the power adapter. If the iPad is found to be in good working order only showing normal wear and tear, nothing else will be needed from the student. Depending on when the student leaves, they may be eligible for a refund of the textbook rental fee minus any costs for damage. Any iPad not returned to BHMSD upon leaving will be considered theft and reported to the Bluffton Police Department.
26. If we have our own iPad, can we use that and not pay the for the BHMSD iPad?
- No. We cannot allow students to bring their own iPad due to the difficulty in distributing applications for more than 1,500 devices within the school district.
 - The district will have replacement iPads available if a student were to experience downtime due to technical or hardware issues.