RIDGEWOOD LOCAL SCHOOLS
BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology)
Parent Information
2013-2014

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Dear Parents,

Ridgewood Local School District is committed to moving toward a 21st century learning environment. As a part of this commitment, the district intends to implement a plan to allow students to use their own technology for educational purposes at the High School and Middle School **beginning school year 2013-2014.** Although research shows a marked improvement in attention, attendance, graduation rate and achievement of academic goals with a BYOT computer initiative, there is no expectation that parents must provide a device for their child for this program.

Studies have found that students are more successful when information is readily available to them at all times. Consistent access to the Internet opens up a world of learning outside the classroom walls. Students can do immediate research to further understand topics being covered in class. Lessons, text books, reading materials and digital content will be readily available to them with their device through a wireless Internet connection off school campus.

BYOT devices will only need WiFi capability for school purposes (no cellular plan is required at time of purchase) because cellular 3G/4G Internet access is **not permitted** at school.

Acceptable devices include, but are not limited to: Tablets (iPad, Nexus, Galaxy, etc.), laptops and netbooks. Each device should have a screen display of at least 7 inches (10 inch display recommended). The device should support Citrix Receiver as the district will provide access to a Citrix virtual application server for productivity applications on all devices (both tablet and Windows based). It is recommended that tablet device owners also have a Bluetooth keyboard.

The responsibility to keep any personally-owned device secure and safe rests entirely with the individual owner. The Ridgewood Local School District cannot be responsible for any device damaged or stolen while on district property. Students take full responsibility for personal digital devices at all times. It is recommended that all devices be labeled or otherwise identified before being brought to school. It is highly recommended that devices are kept in protective cases to avoid accidental damage.

For additional information on the BYOT program visit the Ridgewood BYOT web-page: http://www.ridgewood.k12.oh.us/BYOT.aspx . Anyone interested in bringing their own device to school must complete and submit a '**BYOT Device Authorization Form'**. The link to this form is found along the left hand side of this webpage. We invite all parents to complete and submit the '**Parent Survey'** found along the right hand side of this webpage. Your input is extremely important to us.