Bring Your Own Technology FAQ

What is BYOT?
BYOT is a program that allows students to use mobile communication devices in class that they may already possess (cellular phones, tablets, laptops, etc.) to enhance teaching and learning.

How will these devices be used?
Students will be using their devices to contribute to class discussions and respond to questions, as well as access information from the internet for analysis. Your student may use the calendar, email, digital camera/video recorder, and possibly various apps for the purpose of communication, collaboration, productivity, and engagement. They may also be using their devices to demonstrate project results.

Does this program align with curriculum?
Yes! The use of mobile devices for coursework will not only meet district standards and objectives for curriculum and technology, but also the National Educational Technology Standards for Students (developed by the International Society for Technology in Education).

How much will this affect my data usage plan?
The Scottsdale Unified School District provides a free guest Wi-Fi network for all students. Although some voluntary activities may involve text messaging, all activities can be accomplished via our wireless network at no additional cost to you.

Do I need to buy my student a device now?
No, the BYOT program is voluntary, and class activities are designed to be adapted for partner or small group work. Your student will never be penalized for not bringing their own device.

If I want to buy a device for my student, which one should I buy?
There is no specific device that is required or recommended. If you choose to buy your student a device, please shop within your financial comfort level. Ideally, the device should be able to connect to Wi-Fi, have an internet browser, digital camera, calendar, and access to email. A data plan is not necessary. The device is not meant to take the place of a computer for word processing or accessing district resources such as SuccessMaker, or other programs that require a Flash player. Campus computers are available for those purposes.

What if I don't want my student to participate in this program?
Not a problem. Teachers who integrate BYOT programs will send home a Responsible Use Agreement for you and your student to sign. On that form, you can indicate that you would prefer your student not use their device in class, and they can still participate by partnering with another student.

More Questions?
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