

### **Pros and Cons of a Digital Classroom**

While there are advocates for both sides of this coin, our belief is that that the majority of students will be in a position that utilizes technology in the near future. Beyond the job place, the majority of students will be using social media to interact with others. As a result, we believe it is essential to teach our students the skills necessary to use and interact with technology ethically, competently and thoughtfully. Many parents recognize that our children are interacting in a digital world where very few adults are present. Without being taught digital skills (like leaving a positive digital footprint), there can be a serious impact on their current or future opportunities. While we are aware of the list of pros and cons, we believe that we have a professional responsibility to develop citizens who are able to collaborate, create, problem solve, analyze, and investigate in both digital and analog worlds.

### **Why go to school in a Digital Environment?**

Most students graduating now will be working in jobs and fields that require a reasonable level of competency in using digital technology. Furthermore, the common skills needed in the 21st century include:

- Creativity • Critical Thinking • Problem Solving • Decision Making • Communication • Collaboration
- Information and Computer Literacy • Citizenship • Personal and Social Responsibility

The BC Ministry of Education has created a draft form of curricular competencies that include:

- Critical Thinking • Creative Thinking • Reflective Thinking • Positive Personal and Cultural Identity
- Personal Awareness and Responsibility • Social Awareness and Responsibility

## ***KWAYHQITLUM MIDDLE SCHOOL - BYOD Information (DRAFT)***

### **Device Suggestions**

We strongly encourage parents and students to take time to research and sample the different devices that are available. We have learned that the device student's use becomes very personalized, and that their learning and willingness to use technology increases when they feel comfortable with their device. During the last several years, we have seen an increase in the use of laptops and windows based tablet devices. Please review the device recommendations below.

### **Tablet / Laptop Recommendations:**

Ability to annotate (i.e. Math)

Stylus

Protective case

Keyboard

Device should have a camera for stills and video

Minimum 16GB storage for tablet

Minimum 10" screen

Apps – See some of our recommendations

iOS 7 or higher, Windows 8 RT.

Mac laptop (min. OSX 10.7)

PC laptop (min. OS windows 7)

### **Security Tips**

- Physically lock your device in your locker or another secure area when you are not using it
- Use a keylock/password on your device
- Do not leave your device somewhere then walk away
- Protect your device with a case
- Download a tracking app such as "Find my iPad"

## ***KWAYHQITLUM MIDDLE SCHOOL - BYOD Information (DRAFT)***

### **Digital Citizenship & On-line Safety**

All students must abide by the District Wide Network and Internet Use Expectations. Accessing the district network is a privilege that will be revoked if students do not abide by the Code of Conduct.

View the SD43 Digital Rights and Responsibilities:

<https://www.sd43.bc.ca/Resources/DigitalCitizenship/Pages/RightsResponsibilites.aspx>

1. ***Do Create a Positive Digital Footprint***

Employers are now looking up a person's profile online before hiring. Use this to your benefit in helping an employer see that you would be a good addition to their organization. Everything you post is archived and mined. Your digital footprint is a reflection of your character. Use thoughtful and considerate language; remember that feelings and tone can sometimes be misconstrued.

2. ***Do Build Positive Working Relationships***

You can benefit from the support and expertise of peers, teachers, and experts in the field. Build a positive and constructive network that will enable you to succeed and learn. Consider on-line interactions that build trust, respect, suspend judgement and do not harm.

3. ***Do Ask Before You Post or Record***

Consider the privacy of others. Before taking a photo or video, ask permission. Before posting anything about someone else, including their work, seek permission. Everyone has a right to feel safe.

4. ***Do Limit What You Say About Yourself***

Many sites, such as Google, mine data. In other words, every time something is posted with your name, that information is taken to create a profile on you. Be aware that there are individuals who also do this to gain access to your banking, home, or your personal privacy. Use passwords that are difficult to trace and keep them private. Be wary of sharing your real name, address, phone number, financial information, school name, passwords, or other private information.

5. ***Do Use Your Technology to Create and Share Work***

Technology gives you access to tools that you may not have otherwise had before. Create, publish, share ideas, and get feedback.

6. ***Do Report Inappropriate Use of Technology***

Anyone trying to intimidate, harass, or bully others on-line may be charged through the Criminal Code (Section 264). Furthermore, it is also illegal to Distribute Obscene Matter (Section 163), post images of anyone under 18 years engaging in sexual acts or depicting sexual organs (Section 163.1), injuring the reputation of others by exposing them to ridicule, hatred, or contempt (Section 298), or sending false messages intended to injure or alarm someone (Section 372). Report these types of

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situations to the police or school staff immediately.

To report to the School Administration, email: 108-administration@sd43.bc.ca

### 7. Do Cite Your Sources

While there is an abundance of information shared on the internet, you must write down where you found your information so that the author gets recognized for their work. This is respectful as it acknowledges the intellectual property of an author or publisher. Plagiarism is the copying of someone else's work without referencing or acknowledging them.

### 8. Do Stay Organized

With keeping all your work on one device, it is important to create a filing or storage system that works for you. Keep track of your time, deadlines, and projects using a calendar. Do utilize your teacher's website to get information and announcements.