



St. Michael – Albertville Independent School District 885

Excellence is Our Tradition

St. Michael- Albertville Schools “Project Phoenix” FAQs – Parents

Is my child required to bring a device?

No, students are not required to bring their own device. A limited number of devices are provided in each pilot classroom.

What if my child’s device is stolen or damaged? What recourse can I take?

Students bring electronic communication devices to school at their own risk, just like any other personal item. The school will not be held responsible if an electronic device or other item is lost, stolen or misplaced. Some devices have a device locator; it is recommended that you enable this feature if possible.

My child has a limited data plan, will he/she be required to use their own 3G or 4G service plan?

No, students with a personally owned device must use the STMABYOD wireless network when using their device at school.

My child is bringing a device to school for instructional purposes. Will they have access on their device to things they normally do with district equipment?

Your child will have access on their devices to any of the web-based software the school currently uses (databases, library search tools, Internet, etc.). Your child will still use district equipment for the things they have traditionally used them for, including network folder access, software, etc. Software may run differently on different devices for varying reasons.

I am considering purchasing a device for my student, what should I buy?

If you are thinking of purchasing a device for your child, we would recommend an iPad, iPod Touch, Chromebook, Nexus 7, laptop, or an Apple or Android based smartphone. The district purchased a limited number of iPads and Chromebooks for student use for this pilot.

Will the students still use existing district technology like computer labs and SMART boards?

Yes, district technology like computer labs and SMART boards will continue to be used extensively by students in our building. BYOD will increase access and engagement.

As a parent am I required to add additional software (virus protection, filter, tracking device, etc.) to my child’s device?

Virus protection for PC’s is required. Device location software is not required but is always a good idea.

How will my son’s/daughter’s device be used in the classroom?

Students will engage in an integrated curriculum, access information and apply it to solve authentic problems.

St. Michael-Albertville Public Schools “Project Phoenix” FAQs – Students

I don't have my own electronic communication device to bring to school. Will I be penalized or miss out on instruction?

No, it is not mandatory for students to bring a device, even if they own one. Use of personal electronic devices will be optional. Keep in mind that learning can be enhanced greatly for the entire class even if only a handful of students have a device! If a student does not have a device, he/she will not miss out on the learning opportunities.

I have my own electronic communication device to bring to school. Do I have to share my device with other students?

No, it is not mandatory for students to share their personal devices. Each BYOD classroom has a limited number of devices for students to use. Students with personal devices may be asked to share their screen with other students, but each student is ultimately responsible for the control of their own device.

I have my device with me in class. How do I get on the Internet?

Most devices will detect a wireless connection when you are near one. Most of the time devices will ask you if you would like to join the network when prompted, choose STMABYOD from the list. Once selected, the student will be asked to click okay to the STMA acceptable use policies.

My device is not prompting me to choose a wireless network. Is there another way to connect?

In the settings menu of your device, there is usually an icon for a network. Go to this icon and choose STMABYOD from the list of available wireless networks or prompt your device to look for wireless networks in range.

I can't get my device to connect to the network. Can I get some help from someone?

Resources may be available to help you connect to the wireless network in your school. It is not the responsibility of your teacher or other staff to troubleshoot individual devices during the school day. Please keep in mind that students may use a classroom device or join with another student with a device to ensure that they continue the learning experience if their device does not connect.

I need to print the assignment I just completed. Why is there no printer when I try this?

Printers are networked differently in the school and will not be available when you log in to the wireless network. Some network solutions include creating and sharing an online document (Google Doc), emailing the document to your teacher, saving the document to a flash drive or printing the document from home or another school computer. Keep in mind that using school printers in the classroom or other learning spaces is at the discretion of the teacher or other school administrator.

My device was stolen when I brought it to school. Who should I contact about this?

St. Michael-Albertville Schools is not responsible for the theft of a device, nor are they responsible for any damage done to the device while at school. Any time a theft occurs, you should contact a school administrator to make him/her aware of the offense. Bringing your own devices to school can be useful; however, some risks are involved. It is always a good idea to enable the device locator (if available) and record the device's serial number to have in case of theft.

Why am I filtered on my own computer or device? Shouldn't I be able to see what I want to on my own device?

Internet filtering is a requirement of all public schools. The Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires all network access to be filtered regardless of the device you use to access it while in a public school. You own your device, but the network you're using belongs to the school and Internet access will be filtered.

Am I still held accountable for the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) I agreed to at the beginning of the school year even though this is my personal device?

Yes, students using a personally owned device must agree to both the Acceptable Use Policy and the Device User Agreement.