THE CONTENT

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THE REASON

OUR KIDS LEARN WITHIN A SYSTEM OF EDUCATION DEvised FOR A WORLD THAT INCREASINGLY DOES NOT EXIST.

- David Edwards

Our familiarity and comfort with paper books, memorization of facts, and completion of assignments shaped our learning for life and careers well-suited to the 20th century. Society has changed and continues to change at very rapid pace. The skills that our children need today to navigate and construct the world they live in are far different. They need to communicate, collaborate, be creative, think critically, connect, and be culturally proficient. These are the power skills, and the context is increasingly digital.
In this digital context, access is crucial. Access to computers and the Internet provides resources for students to thrive.

Ensuring everyone has access increases equity in many ways. It also opens the doors to transformative learning environments. It greatly increases the ability for teachers to design lessons that allow for flexibility in time, place, path, and pace for each learner. “Blended learning”, as this is known, is more engaging and relevant for students, which improves their learning outcomes.

We can no longer view technology as separate from teaching and learning. We also know that simply buying devices will not prepare our students for this changing world. We know that standing still in a world of change is not an option. Therefore, we embrace blended learning as a model which is a “blend” of face-to-face learning experiences AND digital learning experiences that influence and enhance one another. Blended learning amplifies face-to-face learning instead of replacing it.
E-textbooks on tablets cost on average 50-60% less than print textbooks.

http://tablets-textbooks.procon.org/
A key component of the Austin ISD Strategic plan is a commitment to a “transformative use of technology.” This vision challenges us to ensure that technology is truly moving beyond a replacement for paper and pencil tasks.

We believe that a commitment to student voice and choice is key to developing an authentic sense of self in the world and in relation to the world. As students learn concepts in all of their classes, they are challenged to:

- Activate creativity and make thinking visible
- Collaborate meaningfully and thoughtfully with peers, teachers, and experts
- Communicate ideas effectively
- Think critically about topics and apply problem-solving skills
- Deepen cultural proficiency
  - Explore the connections to themselves, their peers, the world, and ideas
In the fall of 2017, every student will have access to the Austin ISD Learning Positioning System, BLEND, as a centralized hub for learning. This means that every student will increasingly access and interact with content, assignments, digital tools, discussions, quizzes, a personalized calendar, and more, in one convenient secure location.

BLEND is an Austin ISD tool that is designed to support meaningful blended learning.

BLEND is the result of a close partnership with Canvas, which is the system used by the University of Texas at Austin, other major universities, and K-12 institutions across the country.

**Benefits of BLEND**

- One central place of access
- Online, ongoing collaboration
- Immediate feedback in multiple modes (written, audio, video)
- Archive of learning with an ePortfolio that goes with students year to year
- Transparency for parents into the learning process
- Access to high-quality content, materials, and digital tools
- A built-in calendar that brings together due dates and assignments from multiple classes
- The ability to connect using a mobile device or cell phone

**Austin ISD provides more than 50,000 digital books for all students**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT IT ISN’T</th>
<th>WHAT IT IS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A tool for purely online learning</td>
<td>A tool for blended learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A replacement for a high quality teacher</td>
<td>A support for meaningfully connecting teacher, student, parent, and content</td>
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<tr>
<td>A tool for mere consumption of information</td>
<td>A tool to support inquiry, problem-based learning, and creation</td>
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<tr>
<td>The only place where learning happens</td>
<td>A way to connect learning wherever it takes place</td>
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<td>Unguided access to online gaming</td>
<td>Access to the internet</td>
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<td>A replacement for the hardware and software</td>
<td>Access to online eLearning tools</td>
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<tr>
<td>necessary for CTE courses or other specialized</td>
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<tr>
<td>areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unchecked screentime</td>
<td>Use of computers at times to engage in meaningful and authentic tasks</td>
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<tr>
<td>A replacement for paper and pencil tasks</td>
<td>An opportunity to exercise control over time, place, and/or pace of learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>The only way for a student to receive feedback</td>
<td>A way to gain instant insight into progress toward learning goals</td>
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<tr>
<td>An anonymous platform for poor behavior</td>
<td>An opportunity to develop digital citizenship, digital literacy, the syntax</td>
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<td></td>
<td>of the internet, and digital fluency</td>
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<tr>
<td>An unprotected launch into the internet with no</td>
<td>The building of confidence and skillsets to prepare for college, career,</td>
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<td>safety or support</td>
<td>and life</td>
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THE COMPUTER

Every high school student will be assigned their own computer. The EVERYONE: 1 initiative extends that opportunity and allows students to take a computer home. The current state of the art for these computers is a laptop that converts to a tablet with a touchscreen. This is known as a “two-in-one” Chromebook in addition, every student will receive a durable chromebook sleeve.
COMPUTER USE EXPECTATIONS

01 Computers must come to school fully charged each morning.

02 Teachers and principals determine when computers may not be used.

03 The computer is an educational tool and should be used in that manner.

04 Anyone using the computers will use them responsibly and respectfully. They will treat the computers carefully, so as not to cause damage.

05 Students should avoid storing any files on the computer’s hard drive, and should instead use their Austin ISD Google Drive account.

06 Avoid having food and drinks near your computer.

07 Always keep your computer in the protective sleeve that comes with your computer.

08 Honor the AISD security software and filters.

09 Abide by the AISD Acceptable Use Policy and the Student Code of Conduct.

10 If your computer is missing or suspected stolen, report it no later than the following school day to the campus security officer.
TECHNOLOGY IS NOT JUST A TOOL. IT CAN GIVE LEARNERS A VOICE THAT THEY MAY NOT HAVE HEARD BEFORE.

-George Couros
In addition to the opportunities for learning that come with access to technology, another consideration is that textbook publishers are shifting from print textbook to digital textbooks. This is helpful to recognize, because the computers students receive from Austin ISD are, in a sense, the new textbooks. As with textbooks and other instructional materials, students are expected to take care of these learning tools that will be entrusted to them.

In order to protect the district’s investment, we have purchased an extended warranty, accidental damage protection, and loss/theft protection for each student computer. We will also issue a protective sleeve with each device. (Use of this sleeve is expected as part of students’ responsibilities.) Collectively, these will protect against accidental damage and loss or theft beyond the control of the student. It’s important to remember that even with these ample safeguards, the student must still take care of the computer that has been issued to them.

We want you to be aware of how we will assess incidents of damage or loss. While these can’t cover every situation, in general this is the process and our goal is to ensure that students are empowered to keep the devices operational, useful, and available.

- Instances of damage and loss will be researched and investigated.
- Intentional damage or carelessness that results in loss or damage will be reviewed by campus administration in the context of the student code of conduct.
- Damage or loss that results in a cost to the district may be subject to reimbursement.
- Prompt reporting of loss or damage will help limit losses.
- Campus administration may determine that damage or loss may also result in the loss of the student’s privilege to take a computer off campus.
Here are some examples of estimated repair/replacement costs, if it is determined that the loss or damage was the student’s responsibility. The costs may be offset or reduced by the insurance and warranty services we have purchased:

Whole device replacement:

up to **$315**

(but less any payments received through loss/theft protection.)

Replacement charger cords:

**$35**

Repair broken screen:

up to **$55**

(but reduced by accidental damage coverage where possible.)

Replacement sleeve:

**$15**

**IMPORTANT POINT:** Report a lost or stolen device immediately.

*costs subject to change.
“BYOD”
(BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE)

Students may use a personally owned computer as an alternative to an Austin ISD “Everyone: 1” computer. The BYOD computer must have a 10” screen or larger. A mobile phone is not considered a suitable device for “Everyone:1”. Anyone who uses any personally owned devices while on district property or participating at a district-sponsored event must follow the district’s Acceptable Use Guidelines and Internet Safety Plan.

Support for personally owned devices is limited to connecting to the AISD Education Network or logging in to the AISD Cloud. Furthermore, Austin ISD does not guarantee the privacy or security of any data stored on or transmitted by any privately owned devices.

A personally owned device may connect to the district’s network, including access to the Internet, under the following conditions:

01. Personally owned devices must be running current virus detection software prior to accessing the network or Internet, except for devices that do not have antivirus software available.

02. The district may remove the user’s access to the AISD network at any time it is determined that the user is violating the Acceptable Use Guidelines. Violations may result in and suspension of the right to use the personally owned device on campus, and may also result in additional disciplinary action in accordance with policies set forth by Austin ISD.

03. Do not place any internal components belonging to AISD in any personal equipment, whether as enhancements, upgrades, or replacements, and do not place any personal components in any district owned equipment.

04. AISD administration, faculty and staff retain the right to determine where and when personally owned equipment may log in to the AISD network.

05. Personal devices that bypass the AISD network using 3G/4G/LTE connections may be audited at any time without prior notification or permission of the user.
Students who bring their personally owned electronic devices to school are personally responsible for their equipment. The student or the student’s guardians are responsible for:

01 Maintenance and repair of the equipment,

02 Any theft or loss of the device,

03 Security of the equipment when it is not being used,

04 Licensing of software, apps, anti-virus protection, or systems stored on personally owned devices, and

05 Any data loss or damage to equipment while using the AISD network.
We believe it is important to understand how information about the district’s computers and their use is monitored and used. Austin ISD must protect the investment we have made in these devices. Even more importantly, it’s part of our duty to ensure students behave responsibly with the computer and in their online activities.
In order to account for the computers, current and past information about the device location may be accessed, in certain situations. The primary purpose of this is to locate computers that are missing. This type of research is done when Austin ISD becomes aware that the student is separated from the computer. The most common situation is a computer that has been misplaced at school. Austin ISD typically searches first on the wireless network to see if the computer can be located within our facilities. If the device is not located on the wireless network, we use a different tracking tool to determine the last known location of the device. This generally indicates a school or neighborhood. If the computer is not located with these methods, we may work with law enforcement for more specific location research and recovery methods. Although the intent is to determine the location of the device, this process might result in information that could indicate the location(s) of the student.

Data about usage are collected and reviewed for several reasons. We monitor in order to comply with federal laws, such as the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). We log and review data for compliance with Austin ISD’s Appropriate Use Policy. We also monitor usage to make purchasing decisions. As a result of a spot-check, investigation, systematic data collection about usage, or as the result of associated repair work, we may collect and review data regarding the use of a specific computer, including software used and websites visited.

These geographic and usage data points can be useful, but they are not comprehensive and do not reduce a student’s responsibility for the computers or the decisions made about usage.
Internet access is important for students to be able to take full advantage of Everyone:1. Over time, Austin ISD has invested in every school to ensure wireless network coverage in all learning spaces and administrative areas. The capacity Austin ISD’s wireless system, which is regularly upgraded, can support multiple student computer connections. The system is proactively monitored and a work order system is also available to request technical support regardless of whether it is the wireless network or the computer itself that needs service.

AISD provides internet filtering is designed to guard against websites with inappropriate content, or known malicious intent as much as possible. The “Everyone:1” devices will have the same AISD filtering wherever they go, even if the student is off campus.
In school, students will learn about and practice digital citizenship. We want families to feel empowered with their district device, and we also want students to use them in a way that is safe for both them and the technology. As a comparison, a saw can be a powerful tool—but it could also be dangerous if used incorrectly. So, before putting a saw in the hands of a student, we would talk to the student about using it safely and caring for it. Similarly, we want to ensure that students understand how to behave safely in a digital environment and how to ensure that their technology is usable for as long as possible.
IN ADDITION, WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING TIPS:

- Use the tablet/laptop computer in a shared or common space in the home.
- Keep the tablet/laptop computer where everyone can see the screen.
- Remember to charge the tablet/laptop computer each evening.
- Do not post personal information and beware of requests for personal information online.
- Families should talk about how to recognize and avoid online predators.
- Report cyberbullying and threats to teachers immediately.
- Honor the Austin Independent School District security software and filters.
- Abide by the Austin ISD Student Code of Conduct.
- Do not give out personal information such as address, telephone number, parent/guardian’s work address or telephone numbers, or the name and location of your school, without parent/guardian permission.
- Students should tell a parent/guardian right away if they come across any information on the Internet that makes them feel uncomfortable.
- Students should never agree to a meeting request from someone they meet on the Internet.
- Students should also never send anyone their picture or any other possessions, without first talking about it with a parent/guardian.
- If a student does receive a message that requests a meeting, worries them, frightens them, or makes them feel uncomfortable, they should tell a parent/guardian or a teacher immediately.
- Families should come up with an agreement about the rules of your household concerning how you use the computer and the Internet. Here is the link to one resource for creating family contracts regarding digital device usage: [https://www.screenagersmovie.com/contracts-1/](https://www.screenagersmovie.com/contracts-1/)
Of K-12 teachers believe that tablets enrich classroom education.

The survey of technology in the classroom by the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)
It is important that having access to a computer does not have a negative impact on students’ health or grades, or decrease the quality of face-to-face interactions with friends, other students, teachers, and family members.

Having constant access to a computer creates new challenges for students in terms of how they focus their attention. Research has shown that what many people perceive of as “multitasking” is actually the process of quickly shifting attention from one thing to another and back again. This has particular relevance for students learning to manage their time while working on a computer, because access to interesting content is just a click away. However, that kind of quick attention shifting can result in less productivity in schoolwork, when students might not focus as deeply as necessary on one piece of digital content. Furthermore, it can be easy for students to follow areas of interest to an extent that they lose track of other priorities.
HERE ARE SOME TIPS THAT MIGHT HELP:

- Notice when you are tempted to click from link to link online. Clicking around might be effective, for example, when you are trying to research the answer to a question. However, sometimes it’s more effective to resist the urge to click around, and to focus your attention instead on one page—for example, if you were trying to understand all of a particular article and the complete train of thought of the author.

- Decide as a family what is your ideal amount of time for computer use, and learn to recognize when you are going beyond that agreed-upon time.

- Take regular breaks from computer use to get some exercise or spend time outside.

- Pay attention to the people around you with whom you might interact face-to-face. Learn to set aside your computer when a face-to-face interaction might be better.
ONLINE RESOURCES FOR DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND INTERNET SAFETY:

The Austin ISD Student Code of Conduct
www.austinisd.org/parent-information/conduct-code
The “Inappropriate use of Computers/Internet/Email” portion of the Austin ISD Student Code of Conduct can be found starting on page 4.

The Austin ISD Acceptable Use Policy

The Austin ISD Respect for All Site
www.austinisd.org/respectforall/parents-guide
An Austin ISD initiative that provides important information about the AISD policies that address bullying, harassment and violence, as well as resources for parents, students and educators.

Common Sense Media
www.commonsensemedia.org/parent-concerns
A non-profit organization that provides education and advocacy to families to promote safe technology and media for children. Includes digital citizenship lessons by grade level.

ConnectSafely
www.connectsafely.org
The site has tips for teens and parents, as well as other resources for safe blogging and social networking.

NetSmartz
www.netsmartz.org/
Provides age-appropriate resources to help teach children how to be safer on- and offline.

OnGuard Online
www.onguardonline.gov
Practical tips from the federal government and the technology industry to help you be on guard against Internet fraud, secure your computer, and protect your personal information. Features NetCetera which includes tips to help parents talk to kids about being online.
THE RESOURCES

If you have problems with your computer the following resources are available to you:

01 AISD Troubleshooting resource page:
   www.austinisd.org/technology/help

02 Campus Support Center/library:
   www.austinisd.org/technology/help
STUDENT SUPPORT AT SCHOOL

If none of the troubleshooting ideas on the previous page solve the problem, take your chromebook to the campus support center. Each school handles these a bit differently, but your teachers or librarians will know where to direct you. There will be a supply of “loaner” devices that can be used until your Chromebook is returned to you.

Charging at school

If your battery is running low, check with your teachers or librarians to find an appropriate place to charge your computer.

Help desk contacts

For support with the student Austin ISD computers, please call 512-414-8320. Phone support is available between the hours of 6:30AM and 5:00PM. Beyond the hours of technical support, an automated phone system will create a voice ticket. You may also submit a request for help online at: www.austinisd.org/technology/feedback/mobile-device-support
Dear Parent/Guardian,

Everyone:1 is designed to allow your child to take their assigned computer off campus.

If you want your student to have the computer for use off campus, your student will attend training (written or online) where they will receive information regarding care and responsible use of the device.

If you prefer that your student use a personal computer from home, please ensure the computer meets the requirements outlined in the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) section of this handbook.

Please note that a computer will not be available for your student to take home until this document is completed.

The device will be checked out to the student until the student is not enrolled in Austin ISD or asked to be returned by a campus administrator.

**Parent Consent for Issuing Technology Equipment for Use at Home**

- **Yes**, I want my child to have AISD technology equipment assigned to him/her for use at home.
  
  _____________________________
  Child’s Name

- **I want my child to use his/her personally owned device.**

- **No**, I do not want my child to have AISD technology equipment assigned to him/her for use at home.

  _____________________________
  Parent/Guardian Signature

  _____________________________
  Date