BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE
BURNABY SCHOOLS

PARENT INFORMATION GUIDE

BOARD OF EDUCATION
BURNABY
SCHOOL DISTRICT 41
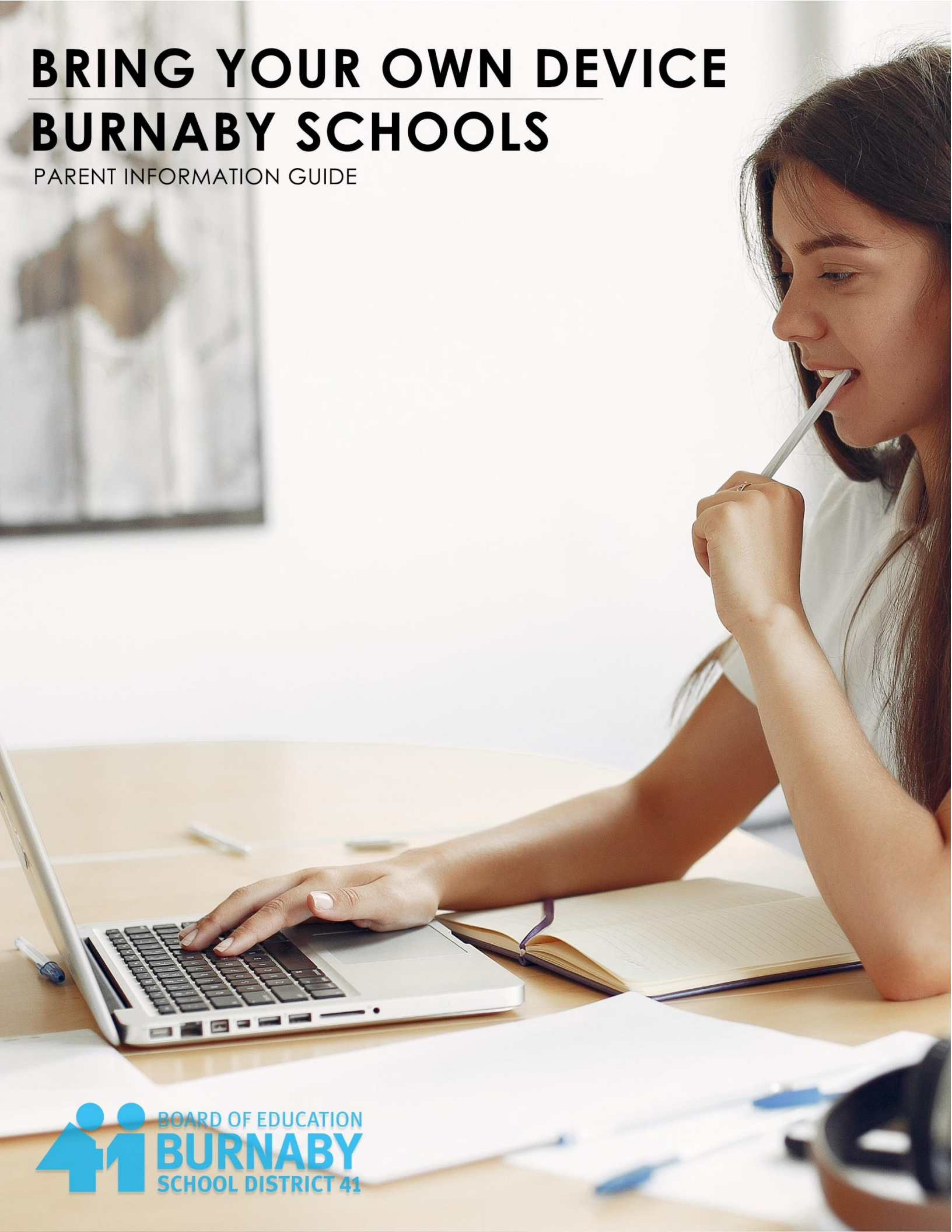
Introduction

The Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative in Burnaby Schools provides the ability for parents and their child(ren) to bring a prescribed technology device (a laptop) from home and use it as an educational tool in school. Students will use these devices, with the guidance of their teachers, to support a variety of learning activities, manage online resources and support different learning modes (audio/video/written).

BYOD offers schools the ability to provide greater opportunities for students to explore and build skills around the use of technology. At the same time, teachers can provide guidance which can shape students' experiences using technology.   This includes:

- managing their time with technology as creators and consumers
- connecting the ways technology can support their learning needs
- demonstrating appropriate use and responsibilities when using their devices

BYOD does not mean that all learning activities in the classroom will require students to use their devices. BYOD provides the flexibility for both the teacher and students to utilize resources and tools for learning in effective, efficient, and personalized ways.

The goal of BYOD is to empower students to use technology to:

- be a digitally empowered and responsible citizen
- support their individual learning needs and personalize their educational experience
- manage and organize digital information and communication
- develop creativity, demonstrate understanding, support writing, enhance expression, and promote self reflection
- support problem solving, design thinking and computational thinking

In our modern, global environment, students must be able to communicate, collaborate and leverage the use of technology tools to be able to work effectively and navigate digital spaces to access information.

COMMUNICATION   **THINKING**   **PERSONAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**
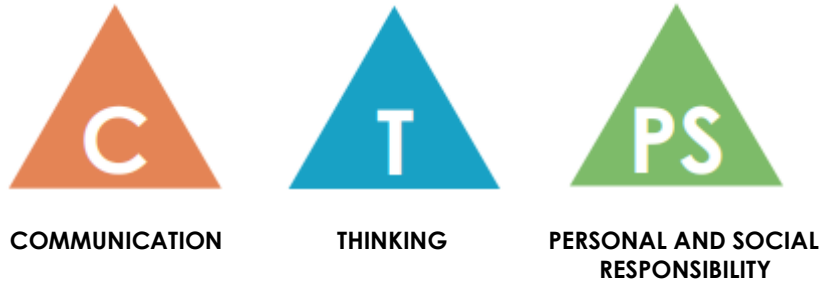
Student use of technology while developing their Core Competencies better aligns them to the world they will be entering when they leave the K-12 education system.

Digital Literacy / Digital Citizenship

Our knowledge, skills and attitudes around using technology are part of our overall growth as a global citizen. As a global citizen, our common values and beliefs must be put in the context of digital environments.

The Ministry of Education defines digital literacy as "the interest, attitude and ability of individuals to appropriately use digital technology and communication tools to access, manage, integrate, analyze and evaluate information, construct new knowledge, create and communicate with others".
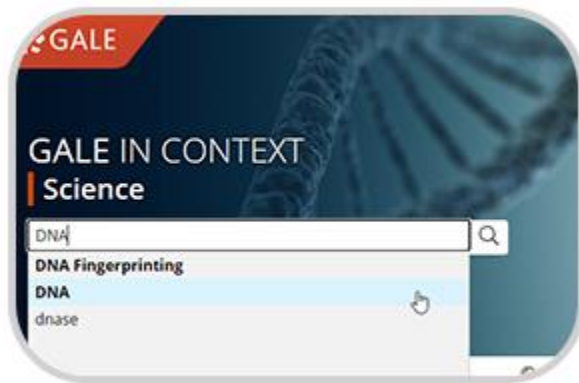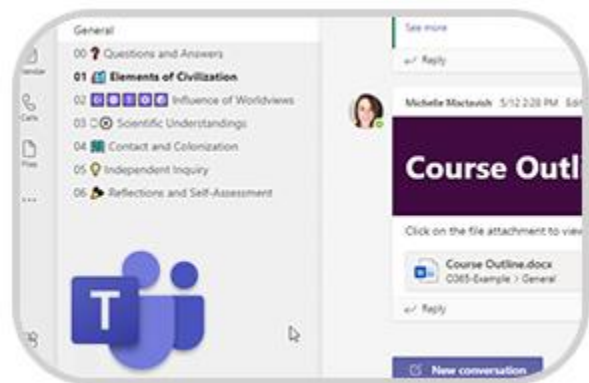

Research and Information Literacy:

Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information

Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making:

Students use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources

Creativity and Innovation:

Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology

Digital Citizenship:

Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior

Communication and Collaboration:

Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others

Burnaby Central's BYOD Pilot Overview

1 to 1 Laptops for Grade 8 & 9 Students
Students will bring their own devices to school

The pilot at Burnaby Central will focus on grade 8 and 9 students. At the start of high school, students begin to have more independence and responsibility for managing their own learning. The focus will be on building a foundation of knowledge, skills and behaviours around digital literacy, citizenship and self-regulation.

The pilot would run over the next 2 years. The initiative would begin in February 2023, with the current (2022) grade 8 students who will start the second semester with BYOD. In the following school year (2023-2024), grade 9 students would start the school year with BYOD and the grade 8 student would follow in second semester.

Integration with Courses
Use of devices will be aligned with course activities and guided by the teacher

Students will be using their devices to support their learning in a variety of ways with their course curriculum.

- Content creation – writing, presentations, audio/video, design etc.
- Accessing reference materials or doing research
- Group or collaborative work
- Using assistive tools for personalized learning support

Digital Literacy and Citizenship
District, school and class-based activities and presentations

The district teams along with the school will be offering support with foundational digital literacy and citizenship development.

They will leverage the use of Office 365 as a framework tool, for organization, collaboration and communication.

Challenges and Considerations

BYOD does not come without its challenges. We recognize that students are presently engaged in the digital world where access to content, social media and communication tools are becoming their everyday experience. Often, their use of technology has no adult oversight or guidance. BYOD is an opportunity for students to use devices with the guidance of their teacher.

Our BYOD implementation is a collaborative partnership with parents, students and staff at the school along with district support from the Education Technology Team, Safe & Healthy Schools Team and the Information Technology department.

All Students using the district-wide network and internet abide by the school district code of conduct and specifically their responsibilities outlined in the district [Network Acceptable Use Policy](#). Accessing the district network is a privilege and may be revoked if a student does not abide by the code of conduct.

The Education Technology and Safe & Healthy Schools Team will be working with each stakeholder group to provide guidance, support and information to support the goals of BYOD. Along with the school administration and staff, they will help address behavioural and management concerns around the use of BYOD.

Management at School and at Home

Bringing your own device back and forth to school will require a number of management strategies.

Security

All students will be required to keep their device secure through transport and at school. This will require having a protective case or bag and physically having it locked in your locker or on another secure area when you are not using it.

Devices are the student's and family's responsibility. There is always the possibility of damage when devices are bumped, dropped or not stored properly. The school cannot take responsibility for damaged devices.

Hardware, Updates and Antivirus

Students and families will be responsible for maintaining their devices including managing updates and antivirus.

Charging

Your child is responsible for bringing their device fully charged to school each day. Charging a device at school may be limited to stations throughout the school. Permission for their use is required by school personnel.

Support & Troubleshooting

Schools will be working to make available small student technology support teams to help students when they have an issue with their device.

Device Purchase Recommendations

We strongly encourage parents and students to take time to research and sample the different devices that are available. Student devices are highly personalized and a student's willingness to learn using technology increases when they feel comfortable with their device. Devices need not be new; there are many avenues to access and purchase gently used laptops.

We recommend families consider a laptop as their child's device. The larger keyboard and processing power of a laptop make it a superior choice over a tablet. Also, laptops are more compatible with educational resources. Recommended device specifications are as follows:

- Laptop
- Minimum 14 - 15" screen
- SSD Hard Drive 128GB or higher
- 8GB RAM memory or higher
- Integrated web camera
- Protective bag or case – (can safely be carried in backpack)
- Optional: Second power cable for device

*This is just a recommendation.
*No software purchase required. Microsoft Office 365 is Free for students.
*Additional applications may be added only with parental permission
*Consider a gently used or older device

District Commitment

The Burnaby Schools' strategic plan shares the values around BYOD to support student learning. The district has made a commitment to:

- Provide all our learners the opportunities of today and tomorrow
    o **There are a limited number of school-owned devices available to support student access**
- Create supportive, safe and caring learning communities
    o **Support classrooms in developing strong digital literacy and citizenship awareness and aspire students to be leaders within the digital community**
- Maintain modern, safe and sustainable technology infrastructure to support student learning
    o **We have invested in an 8 year Technology Plan that supports infrastructure and equity across all schools**
- Expand professional development opportunities for staff to support the integration of technology in classrooms.
    o **The district and school professional development teams are working with staff to provide the skills and strategies to use technology effectively with students.**

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact your local school administration.