



**HACKENSACK  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

**District-Provided Student Mobile Device  
Policy, Procedures and Information  
Handbook**

Revised July 2023

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**Mobile devices** as referenced throughout this guide may include Chromebooks, iPads and/or mobile hotspots, including any related accessories (i.e., AC adapter, case) assigned to a student.

## **1. Receiving Your Mobile Device**

The following is the established process for the distribution of devices and the completion of necessary paper work prior to receiving a device.

In order for a student to receive their device:

- Both the student and his or her parent/guardian must sign and return the signature page of this document acknowledging they have read the policy and agree to its terms/stipulations. Online signature/acceptance via the Genesis Parent Portal will be accepted.
- For all incoming ninth grade students from Rochelle Park and South Hackensack:
  - Student and his or her parent/guardian must attend announced device distribution meeting.
  - If you are unable to make your required distribution meeting, please contact the grade level Assistant Principal to schedule a conference. A device will not be distributed to students who do not attend the required meeting or a scheduled conference with their parent or guardian.

### **1.1 Device Return**

Students, who are graduating, withdraw, are suspended or expelled, enrolled in the HASS program or terminate enrollment within the Hackensack Public Schools for any other reason must return their assigned school device(s) prior to the date of graduation/termination/withdrawal along with all accessories to the Main Office of their current school.

If a student that is leaving the District fails to return the device at the end of the school year or upon termination of enrollment within the Hackensack Public Schools, the student and/or legal guardian may be subject to criminal prosecution or civil liability. The student and/or legal guardian will also be responsible for the replacement cost of the device. Failure to return the device or to report it stolen/lost will result in a theft report being filed with the Hackensack Police Department against the student and/or legal guardian.

The mobile device and its accessories must be returned in satisfactory condition. Damage to a device must be reported immediately as per Section 8.3 of this policy.

## 2. Taking Care of Your Device

Students are responsible for the general care of the device(s) they have been issued by the school. Devices that are broken or fail to work properly must be taken to the main office for an evaluation immediately. **Do not attempt to fix the device on your own or through any outside agencies.**

### 2.1 General Precautions

- A. The Device is the property of Hackensack Public Schools and all users will follow the Acceptable Use Policy (2360/2361) for technology when using the device in or outside of school.
- B. Cords and cables must be inserted carefully into the device to prevent damage. Only original equipment manufacturer (OEM) accessories may be used with the device.
- C. Devices must remain free of any writing, drawing, stickers, or labels that are not the property of the Hackensack Public Schools District.
- D. Devices must never be left unattended or in an unlocked locker, unlocked car or any unsupervised area.
- E. Students are responsible for keeping their device's battery charged for school each day.
- F. If students use device "skins" to "personalize" their device, they must not take off any Hackensack labels. "Skins" cannot leave residue or cause damage to the device.

### 2.2 Screen Care

- A. The device screen can be damaged if subjected to rough treatment. The screen is particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure on the screen or the corners of the device.
- B. Do not lean on the top of the device when it is closed.
- C. Do not place anything near the device that could put pressure on the screen.
- D. Do not place anything in the carrying case that will press against the cover.
- E. Clean the screen with a soft, dry cloth or anti-static cloth.
- F. **Do not use any type of chemical-based cleaners as they may damage and/or remove the protective coating of the device screen.**
- G. Do not "bump" the device against lockers, walls, car doors, floors, etc. as it will eventually break the screen.

### **3. Using Your Device at School**

With the exception of mobile hotspots, devices are intended for use at school each day. In addition to teacher expectations for device use, school messages, announcements, calendars and schedules may be accessed using the device. Students are responsible to bring their device to all classes, unless specifically instructed not to do so by their teacher.

#### **3.1 Devices Left at Home**

If a student leaves their device at home, they are responsible for getting the course work completed as if they had their device present.

#### **3.2 Device Undergoing Repair**

Depending on availability, loaner devices may be issued to students when they leave their device for repair. Due to the limited quantity of loaners, they will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. Therefore, please make sure to report any issues immediately.

Loaner devices must be returned immediately if:

- A. Student's damaged device has been repaired and is ready for pick-up.
- B. Warranty/repair claim has been denied due to willful negligence or intentional damage caused to a device.

#### **3.3 Charging Your Device's Battery**

Devices must be brought to school each day in a fully charged condition. Students need to charge their devices each evening by plugging them into an electrical wall outlet only using the device's wall or A/C charger.

#### **3.4 Screensavers/Background Photos**

- A. Inappropriate media may not be used as a screensaver or background photo.
- B. Presence of guns, weapons, pornographic materials, inappropriate language, alcohol, drug, or gang related symbols or pictures will result in disciplinary actions.

#### **3.5 Sound, Music, Games, or Programs**

- A. Sound must be muted at all times unless permission is obtained from the teacher for instructional purposes.
- B. Internet Games are not allowed on the devices. If game apps are installed, for any purpose, they must be approved and installed by a member of the Hackensack Public Schools Technology Department.

- C. All software/apps must be district-provided/installed. Data Storage will be saved through apps on the device and email to a server location.

### **3.6 Network Connectivity**

- A. The Hackensack Public Schools District makes no guarantee that their network will be up and running 100% of the time. In the rare case that the network is down, the District will not be responsible for lost or missing data. In order to avoid data loss, please save your data as often as possible.

## **4. Using Your Device Outside of School**

### **4.1 Internet Access Outside of School**

Students are allowed to set up personal wireless networks on their device for use outside of school. However, the District Acceptable Use Policy must be followed at all times when using a District-owned device on and off the District network.

Content filtering will be enforced using the District’s web filter when the devices are both on and off the District network (through the use of a proxy or third-party content filtering tool) to ensure compliance with the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

If a student lacks adequate connectivity outside of school to complete coursework, please contact the technology department at [tech@hackensackschools.org](mailto:tech@hackensackschools.org).

### **4.2 Traveling with Device**

For security and privacy reasons, District-owned devices may not be transported outside of the country without written permission from District Administration. Please see your grade-level/school Assistant Principal for assistance submitting a “Travel Request.”

## **5. Software on Devices**

### **5.1 Originally Installed Software**

The software/apps originally installed by the Hackensack Public Schools must remain on the device in usable condition and be easily accessible at all times. From time to time the school may add software applications for use in a particular course. The licenses for this software may require that the software be deleted from the device at the completion of the course. Periodic checks of devices will be conducted to ensure that students have not removed required apps/settings.

### **5.2 Additional Software**

The district's technology department will manage the applications on all student devices. All apps will be distributed through a secure distribution/management application that will act as a bridge between the devices and their respective App Stores. Students will be able to download any provisioned apps in this manner directly onto their device.

iPads Only: Students must use a District iTunes account when downloading or redeeming software provided by the District.

### **5.3 Circumvention of Managed Settings**

All student devices are provisioned by the technology department for the purposes of initializing and managing all devices in a secure and organized fashion. Any attempts by students to circumvent any district management settings through software restoration or jailbreaking will result in the confiscation of the device and disciplinary action.

### **5.4 Inspection**

Students may be selected at random to provide their device for inspection.

### **5.5 Procedure for Reloading Software**

If technical difficulties occur or illegal software (non-Hackensack Public Schools installed apps), is found, the device will be restored from backup. The school does not accept responsibility for the loss of any software or documents deleted due to a re-format and re-image. This may also result in confiscation of the device with usage allowed only during the school day.

### **5.6 Software Upgrades**

Upgrade versions of licensed software/apps are available from time to time. Students may be required to check in their devices for periodic updates and sync'ing.

## **6. Student-Assigned Mobile Device Acceptable Use Policy**

The Hackensack Board of Education has an “Acceptable Use Policy” (2360/2361). This policy is given to all students at the beginning of the year. Copies are also available from the main office and from the district website. That Policy applies to the use of devices issued to students. Your signature on this document confirms that the student and parent/guardian are aware of this policy and agree to its terms.

In addition to the Acceptable Use Policy (2360/2361), the following guidelines shall apply:

### **6.1 Parent/Guardian Responsibilities**

Talk to your children about the values and the standards they should follow on the use of the Internet just as you do on the use of all media information sources such as television, telephones, movies, and radio.

### **6.2 School Responsibilities**

- A. Provide Internet and Email access to its students.
- B. Provide Internet filtering of inappropriate materials as able.
- C. Provide staff guidance to aid students in doing research and help assure student compliance of the Acceptable Use Policy (2360/2361).
- D. Provide technical support, troubleshooting and repairs for all District-owned devices.
- E. Provide all District-approved applications for academic use.

### **6.3 Students Responsibilities**

- A. Use devices in a responsible and ethical manner.
- B. Obey general school rules concerning behavior and communication that applies to device/computer use.
- C. Use all technology resources in an appropriate manner so as to not damage school equipment. This “damage” includes, but is not limited to, the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by the student’s own negligence, errors or omissions. The Hackensack Public Schools District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.
- D. Help the Hackensack Public Schools District protect our computer system/device by contacting an administrator about any security problems they may encounter.

- E. Turn off and secure their device after they are done working to protect their work and information.
- F. If a student should receive email containing inappropriate or abusive language or if the subject matter is questionable, he/she is asked report this to his/her Assistant Principal.
- G. Students who withdraw, are suspended or expelled, are placed in the HASS program, or terminate enrollment for any other reason must return their individual school device prior to the date of termination.

#### **6.4 Student Activities Strictly Prohibited**

- A. Illegal installation or transmission of copyrighted materials.
- B. Any action that violates existing Board policy or public law.
- C. Sending, accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing offensive, profane, threatening, or obscene materials. Transmission of pornography and/or sexually explicit material by or to students will be referred to law enforcement authorities as applicable.
- D. Use of chat rooms, sites selling term papers, book reports, and other forms of student work.
- E. Use of any non-District-approved messaging services (ex: Facebook, Instagram, Kik, SnapChat, Discord, Telegram, Yik Yak, Twitter, MSN Messenger, etc.)
- F. Internet/Computer Games.
- G. Use of outside data disks or external attachments without prior approval from the Administration.
- H. Changing of device settings (exceptions include personal and accessibility settings such as font size, brightness, etc.)
- I. Wiping, restoring or jailbreaking device.
- J. **Bringing device into the gymnasium, pool, weight room, locker rooms or restrooms. All devices must be locked in student's hallway locker before going they go to physical education class.**
- K. Downloading unauthorized apps.
- L. Spamming, sending mass or inappropriate emails.
- M. Gaining access to other student's accounts, files, and/or data.
- N. Exchanging devices and/or switching device identification labels to conceal fault of damage.

- O. Use of the school's internet/email accounts for financial or commercial gain or for any illegal activity.
- P. Sending of anonymous and/or false communications using Skype, Telegram or other online communication platforms.
- Q. Students are not allowed to give out personal information, for any reason, over the Internet. This includes, but is not limited to, setting up internet accounts including those necessary for chat rooms, EBay, email, etc.
- R. Participation in credit card fraud, electronic forgery or other forms of illegal behavior.
- S. Vandalism (any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware, software or data, including, but not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses or computer programs that can infiltrate computer systems and/or damage software components) of school equipment will not be allowed.
- T. Transmission or accessing materials that are obscene, offensive, threatening or otherwise intended to harass or demean recipients.
- U. Bypassing the District Web filter through a web proxy or VPN.
- V. Students are not allowed to record/capture audio, images or video of classes, students or staff unless specifically authorized by the teacher.
- W. Transporting the device across state lines or to another country without prior written approval from District Administration.

## 6.5 Device Care

- A. Students will be held responsible for maintaining their individual devices and keeping them in good working order.
- B. Device batteries must be charged and ready for school each day. Charge them only by plugging the device into an electrical wall outlet with the original equipment manufacturer-provided wall or A/C charger only.
- C. Only labels or stickers approved by the Hackensack Public Schools may be applied to the device.
- D. Devices that malfunction or are damaged must be reported **by the next school day** to the Technology Department via email at tech@hackensackschools.org. The school district will be responsible for repairing devices that malfunction. Devices that have been damaged from student misuse or neglect will be repaired with the cost being borne by the student or guardian. Students will be responsible for the entire cost of repairs to devices that are damaged intentionally.
- E. **Stolen devices:** If a student and/or parent/guardian suspect(s) that the device has been stolen, it must be reported as soon as possible to the Technology Department (by

sending an email to [tech@hackensackschools.org](mailto:tech@hackensackschools.org)) and the Police Department of the jurisdiction in which it was stolen. A copy of the police report must be submitted to the Technology Department for documentary/insurance purposes as soon as it is available.

## **6.6 Legal Propriety**

- A. Comply with trademark and copyright laws and all license agreements. Ignorance of the law is not immunity. If you are unsure, ask a teacher or administrator.
- B. Plagiarism is a violation of the Hackensack Public Schools Code of Conduct. Give credit to all sources used, whether quoted or summarized. This includes all forms of media on the Internet, such as graphics, movies, music, and text.
- C. Use or possession of hacking software is strictly prohibited and violators will be subject to Acceptable Use Policy and Student Code of Conduct. Violation of applicable state or federal law will result in criminal prosecution or disciplinary action by the District.

## **6.7 Anti-Big Brother Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:36-39)**

- A. Please be advised that all information transmitted from or received by District-owned devices while both on and off the District network may be subject to capture, inspection and/or storage by District monitoring software and appliances for routing, bandwidth/application control, security/firewall and usage-reporting purposes.
- B. Internet browsing history may be subject to review to ensure compliance with the District's Acceptable-Use policies.
- C. The District may also periodically access the device when on and off the District network using a Mobile Device Management solution to perform routine maintenance, "push", or remotely install, District-approved software, manage settings, and/or remove software that violates District Acceptable-Use policies.
- D. In cases where a device is reported stolen or lost, the District may record or attempt to collect information regarding the Device's location or usage activity through the use of network tracking software and utilities, which may include images taken using the devices built-in camera. This utility may be tested periodically and any information collected from such tests will not be disclosed or stored. Tracking may also be activated if the District receives credible information that a student has taken the device outside of the state and/or country without prior approval, which is in violation of the terms of this policy.
- E. Data collected may be retained for a period of up to seven years for archival purposes.

**F. Information collected will NOT be used in any manner that would violate the privacy rights of the student or any individual residing with the student.**

## **7. Protecting & Storing Your Device**

### **7.1 Device Identification**

All devices are identified by an internal number. Devices are not interchangeable. With some exceptions, when a student is issued a device, that specific device will be theirs for their tenure at their respective school.

### **7.2 Storing Your Device**

When students are on school grounds and not using their devices, they must be stored in their lockers. Nothing can be placed on top of the device, when stored in the locker. Students are encouraged to take their devices home every day after school, regardless of whether or not they are needed. Devices cannot be stored in a student's vehicle at school or at home.

### **7.3 Devices Left in Unsupervised Areas**

Under no circumstances should devices be left in unsupervised areas. Unsupervised areas include the school grounds and campus, the lunchroom, computer labs, the library, the gym(s), locker rooms, unlocked classrooms, and hallways. Any device left in these areas is in danger of being stolen. If a device is found in an unsupervised area, it will be taken to High School Room 111 or the Main Office.

## 8. Repairing or Replacing Your Device

### 8.1 Damaged Devices

All repairs to student devices shall be performed by the School District and/or its designee. Do not attempt to repair a broken device on your own or through an outside agency. Attempting to repair a damaged device is a violation of the District's insurance policy and/or manufacturer's extended warranty, which can result in the denial of a repair claim.

### 8.2 Device Warranty

The School District self-insures all District-owned student devices for the length of their service.

Damage incurred by negligence, intentional misuse, third-party modifications/repairs or the use of non-OEM accessories is not covered.

Theft claims require a police report and do not cover "mysterious disappearances" or devices left unattended or in an unlocked locker, unlocked car or any unsupervised area (see 7.3).

If a claim is denied due to a student violation of any terms of this policy, the student will be responsible for the cost of replacing the device. Replacement devices will be accepted in lieu of restitution provided it is brand new; the same make/model of the device damaged/lost; and meets, at a minimum, all the specifications of the damaged/lost device. The District reserves the right to deny a replacement in lieu of restitution.

Please see the schedule below (8.4) for replacement costs of devices and their respective accessories.

### 8.3 Filing a Claim

All warranty claims must be reported **by the next school day** by visiting the Main Office or sending an email to tech@hackensackschools.org.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** In cases of theft, vandalism and other criminal acts, a police report, or in the case of fire, a fire report **MUST** be filed by the student or parent for the protection coverage to take place. A copy of the police/fire report must be submitted to the Technology Department at tech@hackensackschools.org

**INTENTIONAL DAMAGE:** Students/Parents are responsible for full payment of repairs of intentional damage to devices. School District device warranty **DOES NOT** cover intentional or reckless damage to the device.

#### 8.4 Replacement Costs (Lost Devices or Denied Warranty/Repair Claims)

Lenovo 11" Chromebook	\$300*
Lenovo 14" Chromebook	\$350*
Lenovo Charger	\$30
iPad	\$400*
iPad Charger	\$30
Mobile Hotspot	\$100*

\*Amount shown is for first year device is in service. Cost will be reduced by 25% for each subsequent year the device is in service.

## 9. Signature Page

It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians and students to read, understand and agree to all policies relating to the device and its usage before a device will be issued.

District-owned student devices and accessories must be returned to the school prior to the end of each school year. Students, who withdraw, are suspended or expelled, enrolled in the HASS program or terminate enrollment within the Hackensack Public Schools for any other reason must return their individual school device prior to the date of termination.

**SAVINGS CLAUSE:** If any provision of this Contract is held unenforceable, then such provision will be modified to reflect the parties' intention. All remaining provisions of this Contract shall remain in full force and effect.

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### STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I have read and agree to comply with the stipulations set forth in the Student Mobile Device Policy, Procedures and Information Handbook.

As the holder of a Hackensack Public Schools mobile device, I agree to accept responsibility for the protection and proper use of this device.

I understand that the District may revoke my use of the device if I violate one or more of these policies.

I agree to return the device and all provided accessories to the Main Office prior to the end of each school year or if I withdraw, am suspended, expelled, enrolled in the HASS program or terminate my enrollment within Hackensack Public Schools for any other reason.

Student Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Device Asset Tag #: \_\_\_\_\_

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### PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and agree to comply with the stipulations set forth in the Student Mobile Device Policy, Procedures and Information Handbook.

Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_