



## **PowerUp v2!**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

1. What equipment will the student receive when choosing to participate in the PowerUp v2! district-issued device program?

**MISD Virtual Learning Academy:**

9-12<sup>th</sup> grade - ChromeBook, charger and case

Other grades – iPad, charger and case

**Early College High School (ECHS), Frontier High School (FHS), and STEM at Wester:**

Windows laptop, charger, and bag

**High Schools:**

ChromeBook, charger and case

**Middle Schools:**

iPad (or other district-issued device), charger and case

2. Is the use of a district-issued device required?

No. The District has a Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) policy that can be found in the MISD Student Handbook. Information about advantages and disadvantages between the two programs can be found in the Mobile Device Handbook which can be found on the Technology Department's webpage.

3. What will students use if they don't opt into either program?

Some students may continue to use traditional tools such as books, papers, and pencils. Some students may opt to use computers at school or technology that they have at home.

#### 4. How will teachers use a district-issued device in teaching?

Students' experiences will vary depending on content and teacher. Teachers will still teach the District adopted curriculum. Parents may see student activities using digital class notes; creation of presentations, videos, and websites demonstrating student learning; students have been able to connect to content experts in another state or country using various apps for connecting and collaborating. Some teachers use the mobile device as a way to provide homework help or give students the opportunity to collaborate on projects out of school.

Other teachers may "flip" their classroom, meaning students review videos or a presentation as an introduction to new concepts and information, and then do homework in class the next day where the teacher is available to help them. Students are able to review the information as many times as they need to in order to understand. If a student is absent, the information covered that day is easily accessed.

Apps used are recommended by MISD teachers, campuses, iPad Mentors, instructional technology, curriculum coordinators, and special education specialist. Many education professional organizations such as the Texas Computer Education Association, the American Dyslexia Association, and National Association of Special Education Teachers are reliable resources for the best apps.

[Common Sense Media](#) is a great place to see lists of recommended apps, books, games, movies, websites and more. Apple provides a list of educational apps at [this link](#).

#### 5. How does the district ensure student safety with the use of a district-issued device?

Mansfield ISD Technology Department employs a variety of methods to manage the district-issued device program including Internet filtering, Google Admin, AirWatch, application restrictions and catalog.

Internet Filtering software collects information about the sites that students access. Whether a use is off-task or appropriate depends on the time of day, the student's schedule, and the teacher's instructions. If a student attempts to access an inappropriate site, a notification is generated and the filtering software blocks the viewing of that site.

AirWatch and Google Admin is the District's mobile device management systems. Our Technology Department uses them for district-issued device student use and inventory control. Using these management systems, technicians can send valuable information and tutorials directly to the devices, monitor use, and manage application download controls.

A list of Blacklisted Applications is also another part of the management equation. There are a number of iPad apps, including most social networking tools, that are not allowed on the district-issued devices in order to reduce the risk of inappropriate use. To see a list of Blacklisted apps please visit the [Blacklisted Apps page](#).

## 6. What can parents do to help the district ensure safety for students?

Parents can take an active role in students' learning with the district-issued device by taking steps to ensure the device is being used appropriately.

1. Periodically, check the Internet browsing history and ask them about questionable sites or activity.
2. Check to see if any blacklisted applications are installed on the devices.
3. Check all photos and videos on the devices.
4. Review the Mobile Device Handbook (found on the Technology Department's webpage).

## 7. What action should be taken if the device is ever lost or stolen?

If the device is misplaced on campus, students should immediately contact their campus administration and the technology department. If the device is lost or stolen off campus, students or parents should report the incident immediately to their local police department and the MISD Police (817-299-6000).

## 8. What actions should students take if the device is damaged?

If the device is ever damaged, students should report it to their campus administration and technology department immediately.

Students should never try to troubleshoot any problems that arise on the district-issued device. Students should not ask a friend or parent to troubleshoot any issues. If any problems arise with regards to the device, students should report it to a MISD technician or the technology department immediately. See the Mobile Device Handbook for approximate repair/replacement costs, which can be found on the Technology Department's webpage.

## 9. Does the student return the district-issued device at the end of the year?

Students will most likely be required to turn in the district-issued device at the end of each school year. Students may sometimes be able to keep the device during summer break and

bring them back to school the next year. The Internet is filtered at school and at home on the device. Processes are in place for parents if the device is stolen.