



# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is Connect2Learn?

Connect2Learn is the name of Beaufort County School District’s mobile learning program. BCSD deploys over 22,000 mobile devices to students in grades K-12.

## What are the goals of Connect2Learn?

Beaufort County School District is dedicated to ensuring all students are digitally literate and engaged 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. Our goal is to continue to promote and graduate highly successful students who are well-equipped to pursue their goals and contribute as global citizens. In providing students with the tools and training that will enable them to think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, and participate in problem-based and collaborative learning, we are giving them the life skills they need to become productive adults and leaders in our local and global communities. One important step in achieving our goal is teaching the skill and proper use of technology. College and career readiness requires that our students be proficient in the use of mobile technologies. More and more, employers expect potential employees to have digital literacy skills before they enter the workplace. Today’s students are already avid consumers of technology in the social realm and must be equally adept at using these technologies to learn, produce, and share.

## Which mobile device will students receive?

School	Device
High Schools	HP X360 G5
Middle Schools	HPX360 G1
Elementary Schools	iPad (Grades K-1), HP X360 G5 (Grades 2-5)
K-8 Academies	iPad (Grades K-1), HP X360 G5 (Grades 2-5), HP X360 G1 (Grade 6-8)

## What accessories will be issued with each mobile device?

- Each HP x360 Laptop will be issued with a charging adapter, cord and carrying bag.
- Each iPad will be issued with an Otterbox protective case, cover, and charging adapter.

## Are there any fees associated with participating in Connect2Learn?

Each student in grades K-12 will be required to pay an annual, non-refundable Technology Usage Fee of \$20. If the fee creates a financial hardship on the student or parent/guardian, they may contact their school’s administration for options to assist with payment. The student or parent/guardian is responsible for all repair and replacement costs that are not covered by the annual Technology Usage Fee.

The Technology Usage Fee **will** cover costs associated with the following:

- First repair of device due to accidental damage (as determined by HP Authorized Repair Representative)
- Replacement of a stolen device (unless stolen due to student neglect); student or parent/guardian

must submit a police report within 24 hours in order to be issued a replacement device (Limit of one replacement per school year)

The Technology Usage Fee **will not** cover costs associated with the following: (students and/or parent or guardian are responsible for all repair or replacement costs associated with the following):

- Repairs due to accidental damage in excess of 1 occurrence per school year
- Repairs due to intentional damage, neglect or misuse of the device
- Repairs of damage caused by violating the *Mobile Device Student/Parent Handbook* or *Acceptable Use Policy for Technology*
- Repairs due to a student and/or family members attempt to repair, reconfigure or reset the mobile device (any attempt to tamper with the internal components of the device will be considered intentional damage)
- Replacement of a device stolen due to student neglect; or replacement of a stolen device in excess of one per school year
- Replacement of a lost device and/or accessories including carrying bag and charging accessories.

Technology Usage Fees and Replacement/Repair fees may be paid via cash or check at each school or online through BCSD's Online School Payments Portal at <http://osp.osmsinc.com/beaufortsc/>.

### **Can students take their mobile device home?**

Students in grades 6-12 take their device home daily and are expected to charge them overnight. Elementary schools may decide which grade levels and when their students may take the mobile devices home. In the event of an emergency, students at all ages may be required to take their device home to continue and/or extend learning. They may do so after the *Mobile Device Agreement Form* is signed by the parent/guardian and the \$20 Technology Usage Fee is paid.

### **Will internet access be filtered on the mobile devices?**

Regardless of whether the mobile device is at school or at home, internet access on each device will be routed through the Beaufort County School District's internet content filter. This ensures that each device will have the same level of filtering off-campus as it does on-campus.

### **Can students access non-educational or inappropriate content?**

While the internet content filter used by the Beaufort County School District is effective in blocking access to inappropriate content, the district cannot guarantee that access to all inappropriate sites will be blocked. When using any district technology resources, including mobile devices, all students must adhere to the *Mobile Device Student/Parent Handbook* and *Acceptable Use Policy for Technology* at all times both on and off campus. In addition, we always encourage parents to monitor their child's internet use.

### **Can students install software on their mobile device?**

Students will only be permitted to install software that has been pre-approved by Beaufort County School District.

### **Is the Beaufort County School District going to replace textbooks with digital content?**

Though some physical textbooks are still currently being utilized within the Beaufort County School District, some textbook publishers are providing their resources digitally. Additionally, the use of mobile devices, interactive software, mobile apps, and web-based resources enable teachers to move learning beyond a traditional classroom/textbook setting. These tools allow students to have constant access to current information, delivered in ways that are meaningful to them.

### **My child already has a computer or mobile device at home, do they still need the device issued by BCSD?**

Yes, BCSD will make a variety of resources available on the district issued mobile device that will not otherwise be

available on a personal device. Also, BCSD cannot provide technical support on personal devices.

### **How will the district address lost or stolen mobile devices?**

- If the mobile device is lost or stolen while at school, the student is required to contact a teacher or school administrator before leaving school for the day.
- If a mobile device is stolen outside of school, the student or parent/guardian is required to file a police report within 24 hours. After filing the report, the student or parent/guardian shall notify the school administration the following school day and submit a copy of the police report. Failure to report a stolen device within 5 school days will result in a student being held financially responsible for replacement of the device.
- If a mobile device is lost, the student or parent/guardian is required to notify the school administration immediately. Students and/or parent/guardian are financially responsible for lost devices.
- All attempts to recover a stolen device will be done by school administration or law enforcement. Students or parents shall never attempt to recover a stolen device.

### **I paid for a lost tablet, charger, or carrying bag. If I find it, do I get a refund?**

A refund will be issued if the lost item is recovered and turned in to the school by the end of the school calendar year. The refund will **only** be issued if the asset tag is intact, the asset tag matches the originally assigned student, and the item is still in working condition.

### **How will the district address damaged mobile devices?**

Students are required to report any damages to their mobile device by filling out a technology incident report form, which are made available at each school. The Technology Usage fee covers 1 accidental damage per school calendar year. The student and/or parent/guardian is responsible for compensating the school district for repairs or replacement costs beyond that first damage or due to intentional damage, loss, negligence, misuse and/or violating the *Mobile Device Student/Parent Handbook* or *Acceptable Use Policy for Technology*.

### **Are students required to bring their mobile device to school every day?**

Yes. Students are expected to bring their device to school, fully charged, each day.

### **Can family members use the mobile device?**

No. Each student is responsible for all usage of and content stored on the device issued to them. Students are not permitted to lend their device or accessories to anyone (including family members) or borrow another student's mobile device or accessories.

### **If a student transfers to another school does the mobile device go with the student?**

No. If a student transfers to another school in the district, the device must be returned to the school no later than the student's last day at the school. A new device will be issued at the new school.




### **Can students decorate/personalize their mobile device?**

Writings, drawings, stickers, labels, or any other form of personalization on the device is prohibited. Only district-applied identification labels (i.e., Beaufort County School District asset number/serial number) are permitted on mobile devices, cases, and accessories.

### **Is home wireless internet access required to participate in Connect2Learn?**

Home wireless internet access is not required for students on campus. Home wireless is required for virtual students to access their coursework. For students who do not have home internet access, there are a variety of options for connecting to the internet including, but not limited to, public libraries and public businesses that provide free Wi-Fi

access to patrons. Additionally, various internet service providers who service the residents of Beaufort County offer low-cost broadband internet service for qualifying families. Information about the low-cost programs offered by these service providers is listed below. Please note that the Beaufort County School District is not affiliated with any of these programs. We are simply including this information to make families aware of the various low-cost internet solutions that are available. All questions should be directed to the internet service provider, not to the Beaufort County School District.

	Hargray Jumpstart Internet, 1-877-Hargray <a href="https://bit.ly/hargrayjumpstart">https://bit.ly/hargrayjumpstart</a>
	Comcast Internet Essentials, 1-855-846-8376 <a href="http://internetessentials.com">http://internetessentials.com</a>
	AT&T - Only for students participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) 1-855-220-5225, <a href="https://att.com/access">https://att.com/access</a>

**When does a student need to return their mobile device to the district?**

At the completion of the school year, students are required to return their mobile device, carrying bag, charging accessories, and any other district-issued accessories on or before the date designated by school administration.

If a student withdraws from or transfers to another school within the district, the device and all accessories must be turned in to the school no later than the student’s last day at that school.

**Can students keep their mobile device over summer break?**

No, all mobile devices and accessories must be turned in on the date designated by school administration.

**What are the consequences for misuse or inappropriate use of the mobile device?**

Violations of the *Mobile Device Student/Parent Handbook* or *Acceptable Use Policy for Technology* will be handled in accordance with the Beaufort County School District’s *Student Discipline Code of Conduct*. Disciplinary repercussions include but are not limited to:

- Suspension of network, technology, or mobile device privileges
- Notification to parents/guardians
- Detention, suspension, or expulsion from school and school-related activities
- Legal action and/or prosecution

**Where can I find a copy of the *Mobile Device Student/Parent Handbook* and *Acceptable Use Policy for Technology*?**

Copies of these documents can be found on the Connect2Learn page on the Beaufort County School District’s website at: <http://beaufortschools.net/>. To find the page, click on “Parents” or “Students”.