



Dear Parents and Students,

We are writing to inform you about new state legislation, Senate Bill 29, which will take effect on October 24, 2024. This bill introduces important requirements for all Ohio public school districts regarding student technology usage and privacy. Under Senate Bill 29, schools must monitor and track student use of school-issued devices. The bill mandates that districts provide parents with timely notifications if specific circumstances are triggered that warrant the monitoring or accessing of these devices.

General Monitoring of School-Issued Devices

Please be aware that the District, either directly or through a technology provider, is electing to generally monitor all school-issued devices (as that term is defined by R.C. 3319.325). The monitoring will include the following features: student interactions with school-issued devices (e.g., keystrokes and web-browsing activity). The District generally monitors these features for the purpose of noncommercial education, such as instruction, technical support, and/or exam proctoring. Additionally, these features are generally monitored as a necessary precaution for preventing and/or responding to threats to life or safety.

Because electronic access or monitoring of school-issued devices can occur, the Fairport Harbor School District is required to provide parents/guardians of its enrolled students with general notice that such electronic access and/or monitoring may occur in accordance with legally permissible reasons.

Fairport Harbor Schools and its technology providers electronically access or monitor your student's school-issued devices for the following statutory reasons:

- Activity limited to non-commercial educational purposes for instruction, technical support, or exam proctoring by school personnel or staff contracted by the District.
- Pursuant to a judicial warrant issued
- Notification or awareness that the student-issued device is lost or stolen
- Activity is necessary to respond to a threat to life or safety. The access is limited to this purpose alone.
- Compliance with federal and state laws

If a triggering circumstance occurs, such as a safety concern or a potential threat, the Fairport Harbor School District will be obligated to notify parents within 72 hours. The notification will include:

1. Details about which features of the device were accessed.
2. A description of the potential threat or circumstance that led to the monitoring.

This bill enhances student safety while respecting the privacy of students and families. As always, our priority at Fairport Harbor Schools is to ensure a safe and secure learning environment for all students. We encourage you to stay informed about these new requirements. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this law or the district's implementation of these changes, please feel free to contact us at Robert Cireddu, Director of Technology, at Rcireddu@fhevs.org or Bill Billington, Superintendent, at Wbillington@fhevs.org. Thank you for your continued support of Fairport Harbor Schools.

Anchored in Community & Illuminating Futures