

Berlin Borough School District iPad 1:1 Initiative Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Berlin Community School providing students with iPads?

The purpose of the iPad initiative at Berlin Community School is to provide students and staff with tools and resources to create a comprehensive 21st century learning environment. Our goal is to prepare students to be successful in high school, college and ultimately career ready. Technology integration will personalize learning and allow students to create, think critically, problem solve, collaborate, and communicate in a variety of methods. The iPad program will help teachers transform curriculum and teaching practices so that students can “discover their potential” in an evolving global economy.

What will teachers do differently?

Teachers will enhance their instruction by:

- providing access to digital resources that engage students
- promoting activities that support creativity, collaboration, inquiry and problem solving
- creating stronger interactions with students in class and outside of the classroom time

What will students do differently?

Students will enhance their learning by:

- accessing each teacher’s course content through iTunes University
- being afforded varied opportunities to demonstrate content mastery
- taking notes, highlighting and annotating key information while reading a digital document
- engaging in virtual field trips
- accessing resources beyond the textbook that can provide additional supports and enrichment for each life-long learner as they strive for personal excellence
- using 21st century tools to increase efficiency and effectiveness while managing resources
- increasing communication skills and responsible citizenship through interactions with teachers and other students through a variety of digital tools

Will the iPads come with textbooks?

The iPads will not come with pre-loaded textbooks.

Will students still use traditional textbooks?

Students may use traditional textbooks and novels in classes; however, there are on-line textbooks that students will be able to access on their iPads.

Do students need to have an iTunes account?

Yes. An iTunes account is necessary so students can access their teachers' iTunes University Courses, and download other resources onto their iPads as well as receive app updates.

Do I need a credit card to set up an Apple ID account?

No. Do not use a credit card! CAUTION: attempting to add your credit card could result in you being charged for school purchased apps.

If my child already has an iPad or other mobile device, can he or she use that one?

No. In order for us to provide maintenance, security, updating, BCS wifi access, and app distribution, students will need to use the district issued iPad.

Will apps be purchased?

Parents will not be asked to purchase any apps. Berlin Borough School District will purchase some standard educational apps for all students. These apps are primarily for productivity and can be used in all subjects. Additional apps for students may be purchased by the district for the purpose of augmenting instruction in various content specific classrooms (eg. ELA or Math). .

Can my child purchase apps or download free apps?

No. The school issued iPad may only have apps that have been downloaded by the school district in order to reduce issues with storage space and reductions in the efficiency of the iPad for instructional use. The configuration of the iPad's prevents additional downloads.

Who will be responsible for fixing or replacing an iPad if broken?

The iPads issued to BCS students are the property of the Berlin Borough School District. Just like students are responsible for their textbooks, they will be responsible for the iPad, charger, and protective case. If the iPad is damaged and not working, students should not try to fix the iPad. District technology staff members will be responsible for maintaining the iPads and will order replacement iPads that are damaged. If a student damages his or her iPad the cost for a replacement is \$49.95. If the iPad is damaged **more than 2 times** then the cost is \$499.00 for a replacement.

Will students get protective covers?

Yes. All students will be required to use the protective covers provided by the district. The iPads and protective covers must remain free of any writing, drawing, stickers, labels that are not the property of the Berlin Borough School District.

What happens if the iPad is lost or stolen?

Please report immediately! In the event of theft or loss, it is very important to notify a school administrator. Every effort will be made to locate the device and to cooperate with authorities in tracking a stolen device. The district has the ability to track the location of each iPad and to remotely control access to each device. The parent is responsible for the \$499.00 cost of replacing the iPad if the device is not located. The student will be provided a loaner iPad, if available, until another device can be purchased; however, the loaner iPad will have to remain in school.

When will students be issued an iPad?

iPads will be distributed during the second week of school.

May students take the iPad home?

Yes. Students should take their iPads home not only for school work but also to charge their iPad. To minimize distractions in the classroom and to reduce the loss of cords and chargers, iPads must be charged at home and brought to school each day fully charged.

If the iPad has a message asking for permission to update, is it ok to allow the update to occur?

Yes. Some updates may take up to 30 minutes and require a restart of the iPad, so it is best to do it at home.

Will students keep the devices during breaks?

Yes. Students will be able to keep the device throughout the entire school year. Devices will be collected prior to Summer Break.

Can the iPad be connected to my home internet access?

Yes. Students are permitted to setup wireless networks on their iPads to allow for iPad use for educational purposes while at home. When using the Internet at home, it is the parent's or guardian's responsibility to monitor student use.

Do we have to have Internet access at home?

No. Not all families have wireless internet access at home. Teachers will make accommodations to ensure students have any necessary documents and information on their iPads before leaving school. Families experiencing financial hardships who do not have wireless access in their home should contact the school for further information.

[Please Read the iPad Policy, Procedures and Information Handbook for Additional Information.](#)