

Learning First Handbook 2018-2019



Northbrook School District 28

Learning First Initiative

Northbrook District 28 Mission Statement

Empower every learner to be an engaged, confident, caring, and inspired citizen.

Our district strategic plan, Navigate 28, has an ambitious mission to “Empower every learner to be an engaged, confident, caring and inspired citizen.” The district’s first initiative launched under the Navigate 28 banner is “Learning First,” a comprehensive plan to purposefully integrate innovative teaching and learning strategies with technology.

“Learning First” gets its name from the book “Learning First, Technology Second” by Liz Kolb. In the text, Kolb outlines a framework in which instructional technology can engage, enhance, and extend learning in powerful ways. While teachers are already doing this in classrooms, the initiative will take it to the next level.

The 2018-2019 school year begins the 3-year transition to an iPad environment. Students and teachers in kindergarten, third grade, and sixth grades will receive individual iPads with keyboards in a protective case. The rollout of personal iPads for each student will take place over three years. When the rollout is complete, students will receive new iPads every three years.

Students in junior high will have the option to bring home the devices, while K-5 devices will stay at school. The take-home option affords our junior high students the opportunity to complete homework assignments and work on projects, as needed, while being mindful to limit screen time for our youngest students. A comprehensive Internet filtering system will be active on the device even outside of school.

Learning First Goals

In relation to instructional technology, we will support, create, and develop opportunities for students to engage in meaningful learning experiences and demonstrate exceptional digital citizenship. We will use frameworks, such as SAMR and Learning First's Triple E, to understand the continuum of student experiences using technology in order to leverage technology for maximum impact. We will modify and redefine learning to help students understand more deeply and then to create in ways that are innovative and impactful. Our motivation is to engage, enhance, and extend learning for everyone in new and exciting ways.

The Learning First Goals are created to build and strengthen students' abilities in critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creation through deep learning of content and effective use of technology by:

1. Increasing student opportunities to effectively use digital tools to present evidence of learning
2. Infusing the district's curricula with innovative technological practices
3. Teaching our students to be safe, respectful, and reflective users of technology
4. Designing professional learning opportunities for staff to learn about innovative instructional practices
5. Building parental knowledge through education programs tailored to their needs
6. Developing a multi-year plan to fund and sustain the initiative.

Technology Acceptable Use Expectations

All students and visitors are expected to use technology devices, the network, and their resources with appropriate etiquette and respect for people and property. The district network, hardware, and software, collectively known as District Technology, are designed to facilitate the exchange of information for the academic, educational, and research purposes of the school community. District Technology may not be used for private commercial purposes or personal entertainment. Students who abuse technology privileges may face disciplinary action including, but not limited to, exclusion of technology privileges over a designated period of time, paying to repair or replace damaged District Technology, and/or reimbursing the district for unauthorized electronic commerce.

Students may not engage in activities that:

- Interfere with the ability of others to learn or use District Technology;
- Use District Technology for illegal purposes or for unauthorized access to systems, software, data, or websites;
- Maliciously attempt to harm, destroy, or alter the data of another user;
- Engage in electronic commerce;
- Do not meet the purposes of District Technology discussed above.

K-2 Responsible Use Expectations for Technology

BE SAFE

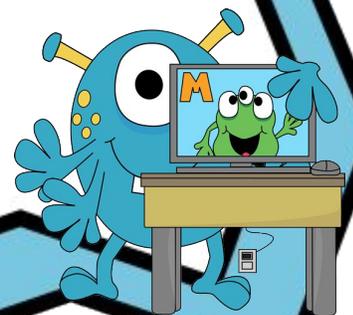
- ★ I will be sure an adult knows when I am using technology.
- ★ I will keep my passwords private, except from my parents or teachers.
- ★ I will tell an adult if something online makes me feel uncomfortable.

BE RESPECTFUL

- ★ I will carry technology devices with 2 hands as shown by my teachers.
- ★ I will place technology devices in a safe place when I am not using them.
- ★ I will use technology with clean hands - I will not eat or drink while I use technology.
- ★ I will use kind words when posting online.

BE A LEARNER

- ★ I will only visit websites or use apps my teacher has asked me to use.
- ★ I will tell an adult if a technology device is not working properly.
- ★ I will print only when directed to do so by a teacher and will ask for help if a document doesn't print.



Learning First



iPads

FAQs

Q: What is the Learning First initiative?

A: Learning First is a comprehensive plan to purposefully integrate innovative teaching and learning strategies with technology. It is the first action plan that supports the district's newly adopted strategic plan, Navigate 28. The initiative is the result of a yearlong study by the Innovate 28 Committee, a diverse group of teachers, administrators and board members who explored: innovative learning spaces, technology curriculum, instructional practices, access and devices, and personalized learning. "Learning First" gets its name from the book Learning First, Technology Second by Liz Kolb. In the text, Kolb outlines a framework in which instructional technology can engage, enhance, and extend learning in powerful ways.

Q: How will the iPads be used?

A: The iPads will be used as learning tools and in a manner different than the way tablets are used for entertainment at home. Our aim is to use technology when it can be leveraged for maximum impact. iPads provide experiences that enhance and extend learning, the environment to create in innovative ways, new opportunities for students to show growth and understanding, and the conditions for streamlining processes and communication.

Q: My child already has an iPad. Can s/he use it instead of using one from school?

A: No. The District is providing students with an iPad with specific safeguards and apps needed for their instructional program. Personal iPads will not have these required elements in place.

Q: Will the iPad include a case?

A: iPads will be distributed already in a district-provided case. Grades 3 and 6 will be in a Logitech case with detachable keyboards. Kindergarten iPads will be in foam cases and students will have access to external keyboards. The cases are very durable and were chosen as the ideal case to protect the district's investment. Sixth graders will be also be provided with a neoprene case for use when placing the iPads in their backpacks.

Q: How will internet traffic be filtered?

A: Connection to the internet via the iPad or any student device is filtered at school. The 6th grade iPads will also be filtered through our network while off school grounds.

Q: Can students access objectionable materials online?

A: Filtering software is installed on all devices provided to students while on school property to safeguard against students accessing objectionable content. No system, however, is 100% effective in screening out all objectionable content. Parents are encouraged to discuss their expectations with their child about safeguards the child should take when accessing the Internet. We support parents by also having these discussions with students through our Digital Citizenship curriculum to promote safe use of any internet connected device.

Q: What technical support will the school offer?

A: If the iPad or apps do not work, it should first be reported to a teacher. If the problem is not solved, students should seek assistance from the building tech support specialist (TSS). Teachers will help facilitate access to our tech support staff for our students.

Q: What is the storage capacity on our iPads?

A: Each iPad contains 32GB of storage. Students will also have access to cloud accounts for storage of assignments and media.

Q: Is my child required to purchase any accessories?

A: Students may be required to supply personal earbuds or headphones. Other accessories, like an Apple Pencil or stylus, may be purchased but are not required. Should an additional accessory be required, it will be provided for use at school. Students are responsible for any personal accessories brought to school.

Q: Will my child use the same iPad year after year?

A: iPads will be replaced on a 3-year cycle. As a result, 6th graders will carry the same device until 8th grade graduation. Students in the elementary grades will be assigned a different device each year as the cart of iPads stay with the classroom.