

FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions

What does BYOD stand for?

BYOD stands for Bring Your Own Device, a system in which students are expected to bring their personal computing devices to school each day to use for their schoolwork.

What are the benefits of a BYOD Program?

- Makes possible a 21st century classroom
- Fosters student ownership of their own learning
- Students have real time access to information
- Smooth transition between home and school
- Provides easier student access to online instructional materials
- Supplements school resources and equipment

Which grades will have BYOD?

Initially the BYOD program will be for the Upper School grades. Other grades may be considered at a later date.

How will my child be using their device during the school day?

Students will use their registered devices to complete in-class activities, check PowerSchool for their classes, collaborate in real time, research for projects, use websites with curriculum-related content, keep track of classroom assignments, and other approved instructional activities.

Students should only bring personal devices for a specific use in classes where the teacher has permitted them. The use of personal devices is at the discretion of the teacher unless other accommodations have been permitted by Maret.

Which applications will my child need on their device?

While we are not specifying a list of required applications, there are some specific tasks that your laptop should be able to perform. These are:

- Create a document
- Create a spreadsheet
- Create and show a presentation
- Connect to a wireless network
- Connect to a device using a USB connection
- Open a website
- Create a video
- Record sound on the computer
- Have an integrated camera

Additionally, some classes may require additional software. Often these specialized programs can be rented for the school year. Please refer to your class materials list for these programs.

What about security/theft/damage?

Devices are the sole responsibility of the student. Maret accepts no responsibility for the security or safety of the device. Students are responsible for the security of the device. Teachers and other staff will not store or hold onto devices. The Technology Department will provide first-level technical support to ensure that devices can connect to the Maret network services; however, any problems involving hardware or more complicated matters are the responsibility of the family.

All devices must be registered with Maret when initially brought to school. Maret will maintain an inventory of this information and will be able to track a device that remains connected to the wireless network on campus.

We strongly recommend other security applications such as [FollowMee.com](https://www.followmee.com) or enabling Find My Mac. You may also want to have insurance to cover the cost of replacement if necessary.

What is the policy on charging personally owned devices while at school?

It is recommended that personally owned devices come to school with a full charge. Classrooms will be equipped with power strips to allow charging during class. Maret will not provide replacement power cables for students.

What apps/software will be used in the classroom?

Maret does not stipulate what applications are required for general use. Students should ensure that their devices can support the functions outlined in the BYOD Specifications document. Many classes employ web-based applications. Some classes may have specific software requirements. In as many instances as possible, Maret will provide this specialized software within the limits of our licensing agreements and supported operating systems.

What happens if the device breaks while in school?

The student will put the device away and take it home at the end of the school day where the student and parent can troubleshoot the device. Maret has limited resources available for student loaner devices; however, families should not rely on these resources as a potential replacement to their student's personal device. The loaner devices cannot be borrowed for five school days. Any damage or loss of the loaner device is the responsibility of the family and student.

Will the device be protected with Internet Content Filtering?

Yes. All devices that connect to Maret wireless or wired networks are protected by our Internet content filter. In keeping with current practices any website that is blocked, but needed for an academic activity, can be allowed for a limited time.

What happens if my child's device is lost or stolen?

Any damage or loss to a device that a student brings to school will be the student's responsibility. The school will not accept responsibility for any loss or damage. Families may choose to consider purchasing insurance and/or extended warranty for the device.

Will there be a place at school for devices to be stored when they are not being used?

When students are not in class their devices should be stored in their bags in a safe place. They should not leave their bags unattended at any time. They should also not leave their bags in places where the device can be easily damaged.

Will I be able to put on my own apps or programs onto my device, other than the ones the school has asked for?

Yes. Parents and students are allowed to install their own apps and programs on their devices. These are at the discretion of parents and students.

Do students still have to bring books to school?

Yes. A device is another tool for learning just like all other equipment. Students will still be required to bring class materials in addition to their device.

Do students have to bring their devices every day to school?

Yes. The device is part of a student's equipment set for learning. Students will be expected to bring their device fully charged to school every day.