iPad FAQs for Parents

Over the last year we have learned so much about our iPad 1:1 Program here at Mountain View High School. Many questions have been asked, below are some of them.

1. **Why does MVHS have iPads?**

   MVHS is the first high school to have a 1:1 program. We feel that we have a responsibility to our students to prepare them to be college and/or career ready upon graduation. It is also a valuable time to learn digital citizenship.

2. **What is the educational value of using iPads?**

   iPads offer teachers and students several things, one of the most important is time. iPads allow students to access information almost immediately, enabling them to answer questions when the answer is important. Teachers can plan instructional activities that would typically require a computer lab when the activity makes sense rather than when the lab is available.

   iPads offer the chance to be creative. We use a variety of apps that empower students to create learning products they can be proud to share. Sharing the product with others is a powerful motivator.

   iPads offer the ability to communicate with peers and experts. Collaboration isn’t limited to class time, nor does it have to be 4 students working on 1 laptop. Each member of the group can contribute via the iPad working on the same document.

   Using a tool such as Schoology together with an iPad, helps students take ownership of their learning. Assignments and resources are posted for the course. Assignments can be completed and turned in even if students are not in school. Likewise, teachers can post instructional tools to be used when they have a substitute. As more teachers “flip” their delivery students can complete the background work at home and use the class time to solidify and apply learning.

2. **I don’t want my student to use the iPad for social media, games and other non-educational uses. Can I restrict access?**

   Please do not set your own restrictions because it inhibits our ability to maintain the iPad. We are happy to work with you if restrictions need to be set. Please call the library to discuss your concerns and how we can best work together to help your student learn to take responsibility.

   Please understand that when restrictions are set on the iPad it changes your student’s learning in the classroom. If the class is using an app she doesn’t have, she must come to the library to download it. If the Internet has been restricted, she has to work with another student or come to the library to allow the specific website. Either one takes a few minutes.

3. **What documentation is required for my student to be issued an iPad?**
Students and parents are asked to read and discuss both the Responsible User Policy (RUP) and the Acceptable User Policy (AUP). The RUP covers the responsibilities for proper use and care of the district iPad. Please complete the application and either the OPT IN or the OPT OUT signature page. (For more information about those, read the next question.)

The AUP covers appropriate use of technology and the Internet with both district devices and personal devices. Please complete the signature page.

Submit the RUP pages and the AUP signature page to the MVHS library.

4. **What does OPT IN and OPT OUT mean?**

OPT IN means you, as a parent, agree to allow your student to bring the iPad home each day and that he will be responsible for charging it and bringing it to school each day.

OPT OUT means you do not want your student to bring the iPad home. He will check it in to the library each day after school and check it out the next school day. We will use the charger issued to him to charge it each evening. He will not bring it home for weekends or school holidays. We will let you know if your student is not checking the iPad in, but it will be your responsibility to enforce the OPT OUT with your student.

5. **If I choose OPT OUT but I change my mind later in the school year, or vice versa, what must be submitted?**

The OPT forms are available as a part of the RUP on the school website. You may print the appropriate form, sign and date it, and have your student submit it to the library. If you choose to OPT OUT, it is your responsibility to enforce this with your student as mentioned above.

6. **What are the fees associated with using the iPad?**

Families are responsible for the rental fee each year. They are also responsible for purchasing a case to protect the iPad. Should there be damage to the iPad while it is assigned to your student, the family is expected to pay the repair fee as outlined in the RUP.

7. **What happens if the iPad is damaged? What happens if the charger is damaged or lost?**

The RUP lists the repair fees for each incidence of damage to the iPad. MVHS has some replacement parts for the charger available for purchase. The district does not accept replacement chargers.

Repair fees must be paid before the student receives the repaired iPad.

The school does not issue loaner iPads while repairs are made. The student may use library equipment while at school (and with teacher permission during class). A damaged iPad does not change the student’s responsibility for completing schoolwork.
8. **My student qualifies for the Free and Reduced Meal Program (FARM). Are fees waived in that case?**

If the student has been accepted in the FARM program, the rental fee is waived and if a case is available within the school, the cost will be waived. Cases are not always available but they are required. The family may have to purchase a case.

The family is responsible for the damage charges any time an iPad must be repaired. Likewise they are responsible for the fee to replace the iPad or charger.

9. **What about cases?**

The district requires that iPads must be in cases at all times. If there are cases available in the district, we will sell them at a reasonable cost to the family. If not, the family is required to purchase a case that meets the requirements outlined in the RUP.

If a case is broken or its integrity is compromised for any reason, the family is expected to replace it at their own cost.

10. **If the iPad is lost or stolen, what should we do?**

It is a good idea to turn on Find My iPad, which can help you locate the iPad if it is online. Go to [www.icloud.com](http://www.icloud.com) and log in with your student’s Apple ID username and password. Select locate and choose the MVHS device. You should be able to tell where the iPad is, if it is turned on and can access wi-fi.

Over the past school year, very few iPads were lost and never found. The student should notify us in the library because abandoned devices are turned in to us to return to the student. He should also check with the teachers, look at home and check with friends or family to try to locate it.

If you know for sure the iPad was stolen or lost, you should file a police report with the School Resource Officer. Your responsibilities are spelled out in the RUP.

The family is responsible for the cost to replace the iPad. The district does not accept replacement iPads in lieu of money. Check the RUP for more information.

11. **If my student leaves Mountain View, what is the procedure for returning the iPad?**

Please have your student bring the iPad and charger to the library in person. We need to log out of accounts and delete them in order to reconfigure the iPad for use again. At that point, she can keep the case you purchased or donate it to be reused.
If you return the iPad and charger for your student, please get the Apple ID username and password. If the iTunes account is different we need that username and password also. If the equipment is not returned, you will be billed for the iPad and charger.

12. **How can we, as parents, help manage the iPad at home?**

   Setting the expectations for proper use at home with your student is very important. Including her in setting the rules and consequences will help everyone. You will know when things are running smoothly and what to do when they aren’t.

   Knowing what your student’s teachers expect will be very helpful in deciding what is acceptable at home.

   Those expectations may include apps, when homework must be done, where the iPad is to be charged, sharing the passcode, and defining any expectation of privacy for your student. When you are discussing the possible consequences, be sure to consider your student’s input. Setting the consequences together helps your student take responsibility.

   Here is a link to a blog response to a parent’s question about how to manage the iPad at home.


13. **Who else in the family is allowed to use the iPad?**

   The iPad is issued to your student and the district expects him to be the sole user. Please help your student by explaining this to the other family members. Last year some iPads were locked, misplaced and damaged by family members.

14. **We have a family Apple ID. Does my student need to set up another account?**

   Yes. When a family shares the account, they share the apps and the iCloud storage space. The district provides some apps to the student but they are not intended to be shared with the family. The family may have purchased some apps or allowed the student to download apps that are not school related. The Apple ID account has 5 GB of storage space on iCloud for data, but sharing that space will ultimately limit what can be saved to that account for someone.