

March 25, 2013

Dear Lorne Park Families,

~~Last spring, the Peel District School Board approved a \$7 million investment in 21st Century Teaching & Learning. Since then, wireless technology (Wi-Fi) has been installed in many schools across Peel to help boost learning in the classroom with great success. I'm excited to announce that Wi-Fi is now available to staff and students in our school.~~

Wi-Fi has become common in many homes and public areas such as airports and hospitals. The Peel board understands and is sensitive to the safety concerns some community members may have regarding the use of Wi-Fi in schools. We take advice from Peel Public Health regarding all health issues. They have assured us that there is no evidence of negative health effects of Wi-Fi. Providing safe and appropriate places to learn and work is a top priority for us. We will continue to rely on the expertise and standards of community safety organizations to guide our use of this technology.

Teachers will begin to incorporate more digital resources into their lessons, and students will be encouraged to BYOD—bring their own devices to school. It's important to note, however, that teachers in every classroom will not be expected to use technology in every lesson. There's a right time and place for every instructional moment. Students may use their devices for educational purposes only with the permission of a teacher or other staff member.

If your teen's device has a paid data plan, he or she will not be permitted to access it while in class. Students will be required to use the board's wireless network, which they can access for free, while at school. If you are unable to send your teen to school with a device, we will ensure he or she is included in all classroom activities that involve student use of technology.

Students are going to live and work in a world where people use their devices 24/7. They need to learn to use technology effectively and respectfully. Digital responsibility is an important part of what we help students learn in school, and appropriate use will continue to be an expectation in our Code of Conduct. On the back of this letter, you will find school rules related to digital citizenship and the responsible use of technology. The Peel board's Digital Responsibility Policy #78 is available online at www.peelschools.org/trustees/boardpolicies.

We are inspired by the limitless possibilities of the 21st Century Teaching and Learning Initiative. These technologies—and anytime, anywhere access—have the power to make a real difference to prepare students for their successful futures. A one-page overview of the board's vision for 21st Century teaching and learning is available online at www.peelschools.org/aboutus/mvv/technologyvision. If you have any questions, please call me at the school at 905-278-6177 Thank you for your support.

Yours truly,



K. Armstrong
Principal



USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Lorne Park Secondary School recognizes the value of using Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) to enhance 21st Century learning to support curriculum delivery. As such, we embrace the use of PEDs in a respectful and responsible manner, in keeping with the school's Code of Conduct and the Peel District School Board's Digital Citizenship Policy #78. The Code of Conduct and academic integrity apply to the use of technology whether students are accessing information from school, home or from a PED.

Students are able to use Board technology and their PEDs for educational purposes in classrooms, libraries, cafeterias/lunchrooms and other areas students gather to do their work, as outlined in the expectations below:

- PEDs may be used in the classroom only with permission of a teacher or other staff member.
- PEDs may be used outside the classroom as long as these devices do not distract from school activities.
- As a result of bandwidth limitations, downloading or streaming of video content for non-educational purposes is not permitted.
- PEDs may only be used to make and/or receive phone calls or texts in the cafeteria or outdoors unless a teacher or staff member provides permission to do so elsewhere.
- Students need to be diligent about safely storing their PEDs. Lorne Park Secondary School is not responsible for lost, stolen and/or damaged PEDs.
- Keep personal information private (e.g. age, address, phone numbers, usernames, passwords) unless approved by a teacher and/or a parent.
- Use good judgment in accessing material on the Internet, and report suspicious concerns to a teacher immediately.
- Create, display, use and store messages, images and videos appropriately while demonstrating respect, e.g. no cyber-bullying or using others' passwords.
- PEDs may not be used for any communication or for taking photographs/video unless permission is granted by a teacher or other staff member.
- Posting photographs and/or images on the Internet (including social network sites) without teacher and/or parent permission violates the Code of Conduct.
- With respect to Board technology, never download or install any software without the permission of your teacher.
- Do not use Board technology resources to store materials not relevant to educational purposes.
- Users should not expect privacy with respect to any of their activities when using the Board's technology resources.

We have clear expectations around the appropriate, respectful use of technology. Inappropriate use of Board technology and/or PEDs may result in discipline or having the use of these services suspended or removed.