



VALLEY PARK  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## STUDENT USE OF DISTRICT DEVICES--SUMMER 2021

May 24, 2021

Dear Valley Park Community:

The Valley Park School District believes technology exists for the purpose of maximizing the educational opportunities and achievement of district students and is supporting an effort for all students entering 7th thru 12th grade to keep their district-issued devices (laptops) over the summer.

Keeping their devices provides additional learning opportunities for students beyond the traditional school setting, and also promotes student ownership of devices, increased responsibility, and drastically reduces the amount of instructional time lost to collection and distribution of technology logistics each year.

Students are encouraged to use their devices over the summer to pursue academic learning, hobbies, and other passions as long as those pursuits would be appropriate on a district-issued device. Examples include but are not limited to, computer coding, audio-visual production, graphic design, reading, writing, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) activities. High school students should also consider using summer months to research college, career, and armed services opportunities and to apply for scholarship opportunities.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to provide a seamless and enhanced technology experience for our Valley Park students. For more information and answers to common questions, view the FAQ section below.

Dr. Tim Dilg  
Superintendent

### FAQ & MORE INFORMATION

#### **Will my Valley Park login remain active?**

Yes! All students' Microsoft, Valley Park accounts and Valley Park email addresses and logins will remain active over the summer.



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**Is there tech support available if I need assistance?** Yes! The Tech Team will be available for students over the summer. Our tech team will have limited hours, but will answer your request as soon as possible. The best way to contact our team is to first use our [Technology Support Request Form](#).

**Does a user have any privacy on a district device?** A user does not have a legal expectation of privacy in the user's electronic communications or other activities involving the district's technology resources including, but not limited to, voice mail, telecommunications, e-mail and access to the Internet or network drives. By using the district's network, devices, and technology resources, all users are consenting to having their electronic communications and all other use monitored by the district. Please refer to [district policy EHB](#) for more information regarding privacy.

**Storing the device:** Even if a student does not intend to use their device over the summer, we ask families to simply store the device safely and securely at home. Doing so guarantees that students will have access to their device and charger on the very first day of school on August 24, 2021 and avoids potential learning delays during the first days of school. These devices do not require regular maintenance over the Summer and can be safely stored on a shelf with the charger.

**Security:** All devices will remain the property of the Valley Park School District. We continuously strengthen our filtering processes and systems to stay CIPA compliant. We are currently in the process of strengthening and enhancing our current filtering and reporting capabilities. Content filters are not foolproof, and the district cannot guarantee that users will never be able to access offensive materials using district equipment. Parents and guardians provide another layer of protection and monitoring of student activity. The district is also exploring the possibility of utilizing our enhanced filtering system to institute restricted use time of the devices over the summer months. If successful, this will be communicated to families and students and students will have online access via their devices limited from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. It is our intention to pursue and potentially implement a similar time restricted format during the school year if this summer trial is successful.

**Device damage:** For any damages that occur between June 1 - August 24, 2021, devices can be repaired through the Technology Department. Please use our [Technology Support Request Form](#) to report damages and issues and to set up an appointment for repair if necessary. Students are still responsible for damages due to negligence over the summer, just as they are during the rest of the school year.

**Loan Agreement:** Each year families are asked to complete the Annual Update that re-enrolls your student for the new school year. As part of the Annual Update you acknowledge the [Technology Loan Agreement \(vp.k12.mo.us\)](#) and our [District's Acceptable Use Policy](#) that outlines the student and family responsibilities when loaning and using a district device. This will once again be part of your Annual Update through Infinite Campus. The Annual Update will be sent out to families on June 2nd and closes on June 23rd.

**Lost or stolen devices:** A lost or stolen device during the summer should be reported immediately to our Director of Technology, Zach Hardesty at [zhardesty@vp.k12.mo.us](mailto:zhardesty@vp.k12.mo.us).

#### **Returning devices:**

If you are moving out of the Valley Park School District during the summer months, you are required to turn in your



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device and charger, otherwise a charge will be assessed for a full replacement of the device. You are able to turn in your device as follows:

- You may return your student's device before the school year ends to your child's school's main office during regular school hours.
- Or you may turn in the device into the office during the summer Monday thru Thursday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

#### **Helpful Hints:**

- Monitor your student's time spent engaging in online and offline learning.
- Support their emotional balance by providing time for physical activity, outdoor time, and play.
- Identify a comfortable and quiet space to learn and study, and use the device.
- Be sure to keep your device clean and sanitized.