



Lago Vista ISD Parent iPad Guide

Thriving as a 21st Century Parent

The changing landscape of the world's information to digital form will require today's student to have a different set of skills than what was required just a decade ago. Future graduates must be equipped with not just core content knowledge, but also with 21st Century skills of problem solving, critical thinking, communication, and literacy in technology, media, and information. Students will need to be able to quickly find, synthesize, and communicate information. They will need the skills to collaborate with colleagues—not just in their own offices, but within a global community of colleagues and customers.

Lago Vista ISD is committed to ensuring that students develop the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to responsibly navigate within the emerging and ever-changing digital ecosystem. To accomplish this while providing a dynamic educational experience for students, Lago Vista Independent School District is excited to introduce a 1:1 (student to device) mobile learning program using the Apple iPad Air. This 1:1 mobile learning program is part of Lago Vista ISD's NexGen Learning, a strategic learning initiative designed to equip our students with the crucial outcomes needed for success on whatever path they choose after graduation.

Let's face it - the world of teaching and learning is changing right before our eyes. Mobile technology increases access to information with the touch of a button. It also provides teachers and students with tools to increase efficiency and manage student learning. With an iPad in their hands, students have the power to create, collaborate, and communicate in ways unforeseen just a few years ago. What is most exciting is that the mobile learning devices give students access to learning anytime, anywhere – in classrooms, in the lunch room, and at home.

Advances in teaching and learning technology are tremendously exciting, but we recognize that they can also be a bit unsettling for parents - especially those who grew using textbooks, college-ruled paper, and listening to lectures while seated in rows. Just as our students are entering a new world of education, we understand that you are, as well. This guide will provide some useful tips and solutions to help you on your journey towards thriving as a 21st century parent.

Tips for Raising a Responsible Digital Citizen

What makes a safe and productive digital citizen? This is an important parent-child discussion to have - and revisit frequently! The following suggestions are drawn from a wide variety of professional sources that may assist you with effectively guiding your child's use of the iPad and other technology devices. Remember: Parents are responsible for monitoring their student's use of their iPad and the Internet while at home. It is important to have discussions about individual family values and how to best remain true to those values, even in the digital world.

Common Sense Media Agreement. The Common Sense Family Media Agreement is a checklist that parents can use to guide conversations with their kids about media use. It's designed to help parents establish guidelines and expectations around media use and behaviors that are right for their family. Some families are comfortable using it as a signed agreement. Others refer to use it simply as a checklist to guide conversations. Either way, it's a great way to help parents and kids get on the same page about media and technology use. Visit <http://ow.ly/wWbJb>.

Put the iPad to Bed. Parenting experts suggest parking all technology devices, from cell phones to iPads, in a common family room overnight to discourage late night, unmonitored use and sleep disruption. Don't allow your teen to sleep with the iPad, laptop, or cell phone.

Monitor & Limit Screen Time. Experts suggest having teens access the Internet in a central place at home, such as the kitchen or family room, rather than away from adult supervision or behind a closed door. Know what your child is doing with technology and how his or her time is being spent. Technology can be a great tool and resource, but also has the potential to be a big distractor. Help your child learn to focus on completing tasks or assignments before spending time on games, shopping, and social networking.

Filter Access. Filtering software is not built in to the iPad. While many potential dangers are filtered and blocked on the school's wireless network, children often have complete, unrestricted access to inappropriate sites at home. We strongly suggest installing software to filter and block inappropriate content on your wireless home network. Some possible filters to consider include OpenDNS (free version available), SafeEyes, and NetNanny. Some of these products offer additional protection features such as cell phone filtering, text message and photo screening tools, and digital footprint/reputation monitoring. *Lago Vista ISD will be offering parent classes on how to set up firewalls and to properly configure software meant to filter Internet access.*

Set Expectations. Regularly share your expectations with your child about accessing only appropriate sites and content, as well as your expectations for being a good person when online. Outside of school, it is likely that your child has already been confronted with multiple opportunities to access content that parents wouldn't approve of. Sites such as pornography and "hate" sites are obviously inappropriate. The appropriateness of other sites that have no academic value, such as celebrity gossip, reality TV, personal blogs, etc. is really dependent on individual family values. Understand that your teen's use of many technologies (such as smart phone video game systems, and cell phones) likely gives him/her the ability to connect to unfiltered public wireless networks (such as in a library or coffee shop, by picking up a neighbor's wireless signal, or connecting to the Internet through a cell service). Therefore, it is important to maintain regular, open dialog about Internet use and access. Discuss your expectations for appropriate use and behavior....often!

Additional Resources:

www.common sense media.org

www.net smartz.org

www.net family news.org

Device Maintenance

Here are a few tips to help your student take excellent care of his/her district-issued iPad.

iPad Care. The iPad is an electronic device; handle it with care. Carefully transport your iPad to and from school every day. Be careful how you place your iPad in your backpack, many iPad screens are cracked while they are in a backpack. Never throw a book bag that contains an iPad. Never place an iPad in a bookbag that contains food, liquids, or heavy or sharp objects. Avoid placing weight on the iPad. Never throw or slide an iPad.

Never expose an iPad to long-term temperature extremes or direct sunlight. An automobile is not a good place to store an iPad!

iPad Screen. While the iPad screen is scratch resistant, it is not scratch proof. Avoid using any sharp object(s) on the iPad. The iPad screen is glass and is vulnerable to cracking. Never place heavy

objects on top of the iPad and never drop your iPad. Careful placement in your backpack is of utmost importance to ensure its screens safety.

iPads do not respond well to liquids. Avoid applying liquids to the iPad. The iPad can be cleaned with a soft, slightly water-dampened, lint-free cloth. Avoid getting moisture in the openings. Do not use window cleaners, household cleaners, aerosol sprays, solvents, alcohol, ammonia, or abrasives to clean the iPad. Use of unapproved cleaners may remove the protective film covering the face of the iPad.

iPad Case. Your iPad comes with a district-issued case. The purpose of the case is to protect the iPad, especially while the iPad is being transported. When not in use, closing the case will protect the screen. The iPad must remain in the school issued protective case at all times.

iPad Battery. The iPad should be charged, using the provided wall charger, and brought to school ready to use each day. Fully charged iPad batteries will typically last 12 – 15 hours of use. Waiting to charge the iPad until the charge is low (less than 20% life or red indicator light) will extend the battery life. It is the student's responsibility to charge the iPad at home and ensure it is ready for use in school each day. Failure to do so may result in the student's inability to participate in classroom learning activities.

Damaged iPads. Your student should report damage beyond normal wear and tear immediately. Most repairs will be completed during the summer months while the iPads are updated for the new school year. Damage that renders the iPad unusable will be completed during the school year. Replacement and/or repair fees may be assessed for lost or damaged items. The District offers optional Accidental Damage, Loss, or Theft coverage. For more information, please see the LVISD Student & Parent iPad Agreement.

iPad Cameras & Microphone. Please be aware that the iPad comes equipped with audio and video recording capabilities through a built-in microphone and front and rear-facing cameras. All photographs and electronic recordings created with the device must comply with District policies and State and Federal laws. District policy prohibits the use of photograph and electronic recording devices in a manner that compromises the privacy interests of other individuals.

Use of the iPad and any other devices with audio and video-recording capabilities during instructional time is at the discretion of the teacher and the student must obtain prior approval to use the device for such purposes. Any electronic recordings obtained with the recording device are for instructional/educational purposes and individual use. Therefore, electronic recordings obtained with the iPad may not be shared, published or rebroadcasted for any reason by the student without permission. The District can and will monitor photos and videos taken with district-issued iPads, but we encourage parents to do the same.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why are you doing this? How do iPads contribute to LVISD's mission?

We think that the advent of the iPad and similar devices, combined with the increasing amount of content available on the web, is a seminal development in education and in our culture. Previous technologies were for the most part tools used to enhance existing educational methods at high cost and with a steep learning curve. The relatively low cost, ease of use, immersive interactivity, and connectivity of the iPad make it not merely a tool, but a learning and communications environment. This is a big deal. Over time, it has the potential to change the way education is done.

How will mobile devices change teaching and learning in Lago Vista ISD?

There are many advantages including individual learning activities, e-book interactive materials, connectivity with peers and teachers, Internet access to unlimited educational resources, applications to specific learning activities, creative opportunities in every curricular areas, innovative ways to learn a language, music, art, and much more. In much the same way that families can now monitor grades online, the possibilities of communication and accessing information are limitless. Also, the paperless future is upon us, and an iPad is a very green application of technology to preserve our natural resources, lift the burden of heavy textbooks off the backs of students, and prepare our students by learning skills that are transferable to college and technology in the workplace.

Why did you choose a school-owned, rather than a personally-owned approach?

The iPad is a highly personal device. A personally-owned, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) model has certain advantages. But LVISD needs to coordinate the efforts of hundreds of teenage users. In such a context, a certain level of standardization is necessary to prevent problems caused by variations in device type, operating system version, and personal configuration.

There are also policy issues when working with minors that are not in play when working with adults. For this reason it is best for LVISD to own and have full legal control over the devices. Harding ownership keeps the technology consistent among all of the students. This makes it less painful for parents, should the speed of technological change make it advisable to upgrade earlier than scheduled. Parents may struggle to buy yet another new device when they bought the previous device just two years ago.

May I use my own device, if it meets with school specifications?

For the reasons noted above, students are required to use the device provided by the school.

May our family opt out of this program?

This is not a supplement. The iPads are an essential part of instruction. Students will be at an academic disadvantage without iPads. Like other fundamental parts of the educational program, opting out is neither feasible nor permitted.

Will students be able to take the iPad home?

Yes. Not only can students take the iPad home, they are expected to take it home each night. The iPad will be used not only for in-class work but also for homework assignments. Many assignments will be unique to the iPad experience and cannot be replicated on any other device.

What apps will be used and who will pick the apps?

Students will use their own Apple ID to purchase and manage apps on their iPads. Certain apps will be selected by teachers and technology staff and will be “pushed” down to students through the active directory.

Can a student put his/her own apps on the school iPad?

Yes, students will be using their own Apple ID. This will allow them to download previously purchased apps, free apps, as well as purchase apps that will be tied to the Apple ID and not the device.

Do I need to have wireless Internet service at home for this device to work?

No. One of the advantages of the iPad is that it has sufficient memory to store textbooks and other materials required for homework, making it unnecessary to have Internet access at home. Naturally, an available connection at home will enable a student to use his/her iPad for Internet research,

access files stored in the Cloud, and to complete some assignments. The school will provide filtered Internet access on campus. The iPads will not have cellular connection capability.

How will we encourage and support teachers in setting up well-structured lessons that integrate Canvas?

Mr. Mathisen will be offering full time support to the staff. The staff will receive additional training as well as embedded professional development for Canvas, as well as innovative ways to integrate technology into instruction.

Will all of my student's teachers use the iPad for instruction and assignments?

One of LVISD's strengths is that teachers have considerable leeway to exercise professional judgment. Just as teachers have in the past used different procedures for paper assignments, so they will have different procedures for online assignments. It is an expectation that teachers use the iPad as a learning tool in a manner that is most effective for the course and content. Students will receive the necessary instructions in their respective classes.

How will awareness be raised with students regarding safe and responsible behaviors online both in school and at home?

All students will receive digital citizenship training before receiving the device. Students will receive weekly lessons throughout the year. These lessons will be modified from the commonsensemedia.org curriculum.

How will students get access to tech support?

Mr. Mathisen will also be available before and after school in the Media and Academic Center (MAC) to assist any students that have questions or need assistance. Before school, he will address technical questions and user support. After school and during TEAM time (between 3:00 and 3:30), he will provide instructional and software support.

Will we provide parents an opportunity to learn about this program?

Yes, we are hosting several information sessions for parents to learn about mobile learning through NexGen before the start of the school year and throughout the school year. On August 7th and 14th, LVHS will host two NexGen information sessions. The Open Houses for each grade will also have two iPad information sessions. Mr. Mathisen will offer two parent workshops a month on various topics to provide continuing support for parents.

What is a student's device if stolen?

If the iPad is stolen, contact the police department immediately and be sure to get a copy of the police report. Any iPad theft must be reported to Lago Vista ISD on the next school day. You will be responsible for paying the full replacement value of the iPad, unless you have the Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage. To enact this coverage in the event of theft, you must provide a police report.

What if a student's device is lost?

If a student loses the device, he or she must report it to Lago Vista ISD on the next school day. In the event that it is not recovered, you will be responsible for paying the full replacement value of the iPad. The Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage does NOT cover a misplaced device.

What happens if my student breaks the iPad?

He or she should bring the device to a member of the technology department as soon as they are able. A member of the technology department will assess the damage and determine further action. You will be responsible for the cost of repairs, unless you have the Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage. The Optional Accidental Damage and Theft Coverage is voided if the student removes the protective case supplied by Lago Vista ISD.

Is there additional protection available in case my student's iPad is damaged or stolen?

Families are encouraged to pay for accidental damage, loss, and theft coverage for their district-issued iPad. Additional information is located in the LVISD Student & Parent iPad User Agreement.

How will students print from their iPads?

They won't. One of the objectives of the iPad is to make all documents digital. Beefing up the printing infrastructure and paper budget to accommodate 450 additional devices is not good stewardship. Teachers and administrators at each grade level have developed methods to exchange documents digitally. When something absolutely must be printed, it will be transmitted to one of the computers and printed from there.

What if my student leaves it at home?

It will be treated the same as leaving other necessary school supplies at home. The student will have to share with a classmate and make due with what is available. He or she is responsible for completing all worked missed due to not coming prepared to school.

What if my student needs to charge their iPad during the school day?

If your student brought the charger, they will be able to charge the iPad in the classroom, at the teachers' discretion. The Media and Academic Center (MAC) also will have secure, charging stations for student use throughout the day.

Can my student take his/her iPad home for the summer?

At this point, students will be required to return all devices at the end of the Spring semester for necessary reconditioning and upgrades.

Is there a way I can prevent my student from purchasing apps or spending too much money on apps?

Yes, you have several options. First you can set up an iTunes account for your student that does not have a credit card link to it. This will allow your student to get free apps or apps that the district has purchased. You can also use the Enable Restrictions within the Settings to restrict the iTunes Store and App purchases. Mr. Mathisen will assist any parent in setting up this option.

I still have questions that are not addressed in this FAQ. Who do I contact?

For answers to additional questions related to mobile learning at LVHS, please contact the following people:

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