



*Brady Middle School*  
*Brian A. Frank, Principal*  
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March 20, 2019

Dear Parents,

The Orange City School District has made a commitment to provide all students and staff with technology for the purpose of advancing educational objectives. Digital tools, when used effectively, can improve communication, productivity, and achievement.

Brady's one-to-one Chromebook initiative was initially launched in August 2013, and placing technology in the hands of each student has helped transform the school experience.

Following spring break, we are going to leverage the power of students having access to their Chromebooks beyond the school day. Starting the first week of April, students will be **taking their school-issued Chromebook home each night**, and will have the responsibility to bring their fully charged Chromebook to school each morning. While students will be expected to bring their Chromebook each day, we are requesting that they keep their power cord at home. Students will also keep their Chromebooks over the summer.

It is intended that sixth and seventh grade students will use their Chromebook throughout the duration of their time at Brady Middle School. Eighth grade students will also take their Chromebooks home during the summer, and they will return it to Orange High School for the start of the 2019-20 school year in order to receive a new Chromebook that they will use through senior year.

With this change in approach comes greater student responsibility for appropriate use and care of the Chromebooks. Prior to taking the Chromebooks home, students will receive guidelines on management, safety, and usage of the device beyond school hours. We recognize that for some students this new responsibility may be a challenge. Please contact us at school if the additional responsibility becomes a problem or too difficult for your child to manage.

There are many educational benefits to Chromebook use within the school setting. We also recognize the potential benefits of student Chromebook use for school-related tasks in the evenings and on weekends:

- Removes barriers related to technology access at home
- Gives students an increased sense of ownership of the device (more responsible for its care/use)
- Increases opportunities for students to collaborate with teachers and peers digitally
- Increases frequency and breadth of student technology use (writing, Internet research, note-taking, completing assignments, and reading)
- Increases parental involvement in their children's school work
- Helps students become more empowered as self-directed learners

This change does not impact our existing Chromebook repair/replacement program. Each student has already been assessed and/or paid a \$40 fee to cover the costs of accidental damage. Families can choose to purchase an additional charger, if needed. Options are available at [orangeschools.org/fees.aspx](http://orangeschools.org/fees.aspx).

As a reminder, Chromebooks that are broken or fail to work properly are to be taken to one of our Tech Coaches (Mr. Miller - Grade 6, Mrs. Drozd - Grade 7), our Media Center Specialist (Ms. Lee - Grade 8) or our Media Center Assistant (Mrs. Drenik-Jones) during a student's Pride or study hall period. If issues are discovered during the summer, please contact Therese Nemeckay at [tnemeckay@orangecsd.org](mailto:tnemeckay@orangecsd.org).

Provided the damage is due to an accident as opposed to negligent or intentional misuse, costs associated with the repair or replacement of the Chromebook will be covered. If a loaner Chromebook is needed, one will be issued to the student until their Chromebook can be repaired or replaced. Students will be assessed the full cost of any lost devices.

It is important to help students remember that use of their device should be in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), linked below, which states that district resources "are provided for educational purposes only." The Policy also states that "The Board has the right, at any time, to access, monitor, review and inspect" the use of school-provided devices, accounts and networks.

While use of these devices at home will still be filtered, students may still be able to access content that some parents may not approve of. For this reason, it is essential that parents are aware of and screening their child's digital activity as well as the amount of time that they are using their device.

Finally, it is important to know that Chromebooks have limited functionality when not connected to the internet. If you do not have internet availability at home, please contact Mr. Jake Miller (see contact information below).

### **Important Notices**

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There are a number of policies that all parents and students had to sign off on prior to being issued a Chromebook at the start of the 2018-19 school year. These are included below for your information.

- [Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement](#)
- [Policy 5136: Personal Communication Devices](#)
- [Policy 5136.01: Electronic Equipment](#)
- [Policy 5513: Care of School Property](#)

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following staff members:

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