



Bloomington Public Schools

It's great to be in District 87!

Dear Parents/Guardian,

Our mission at District 87 is to “challenge, support, and inspire all students to learn and achieve to their highest potential in order to become productive citizens and lifelong learners.” That includes becoming productive and responsible citizens in the digital world.

District 87 is committed to teaching students the responsibilities associated with positive online interactions through web use, social media, and district email.

All schools are required by federal law to participate in the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Since 2008, District 87 students have learned the skills needed to be an appropriate internet user according to our [Acceptable Use Policy \(AUP\)](#). We encourage you to review the AUP for our framework of expectations for all students.

Junior High/High School

Teens have more independence and responsibility when it comes to using their laptop provided by District 87, beginning in sixth grade. We encourage you to have a conversation with your student about this responsibility. Finding a healthy balance of technology in a teen’s life can be overwhelming for both teen and parent/guardian.

Here are some tips to make this easier:

1. Have a discussion with your student regarding your expectations for their technology use. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers great resources to start this conversation: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/Media/Pages/Adverse-Effects-of-Television-Commercials.aspx>
2. Remind your student how to use email responsibly. Each student has a District 87 email account which connects them to their peers, teachers and the world. Although we have various protections in place, the responsibility of appropriate usage is a conversation we have in schools and would appreciate you also addressing at home.
3. Discuss the importance of proper online etiquette regarding social media use. Sometimes these tools are not used in a productive or positive way. We remind students that their words matter, even through comments and photos online.
4. If you are not aware of what your student is viewing online, just ask. Snapchat, Instagram and YouTube are currently the most popular platforms. Have a conversation with your student about their behaviors on these and other social media outlets.
5. Remind your student that they must follow rules in our [AUP](#), [Student Handbook](#), and [1:1 Guidebook](#), which all include online behavior and technology use.

District 87 values technology as a learning tool for our students. Visit the [technology department tab](#) on www.District87.org for additional resources. If your student has an issue with their laptop, please have them visit the Technology Annex at BJHS or BHS.

If you have questions about how we use technology in our curriculum, contact Dr. Diane Wolf at wolfd@district87.org or 309-827-6031.

We appreciate your support while raising productive and responsible citizens in a digital age.