**Bring Your Own Computer Program**
**Questions and Answers**

**What is BYOC?**
The SJND Bring Your Own Computer (BYOC) program recognizes that most students already own and use a personal computer for their school work and personal use. The BYOC program leverages this fact and asks students to bring their own computer – whether it be a laptop, netbook or tablet – with them to school each day.

**Why do a BYOC program?**
Like most colleges, SJND developed the BYOC plan so that students can use whatever tool best supports their needs, as long as it follows the minimum required specifications outlined by the school. Additionally, in many cases the price of a tablet is less than a couple of textbooks.

**What are the advantages for students?**
The introduction of personal computers in SJND classrooms will support students' ability to excel in the social and technical landscape they will encounter as college students and professionals. Students will have immediate access to classroom resources for research, practice, collaboration and assessment. Digital textbooks will be used in courses and will allow students to access concepts in various ways and annotate key materials. In most cases, digital textbooks are less expensive than print textbooks. In addition, communication between students and teachers will be faster and available for reference as it moves online.

**How will students use their computers?**
Day-to-day usage will include the organization of class materials and assignments, note-taking in class and proactively looking for resources that deepen understanding. Students will also use online assessment tools, take virtual museum trips, create audio and visual content to demonstrate their work and participate in online student discussions moderated by their teachers. Each SJND academic department will develop a technology use plan that will outline the best ways for each course to use various technologies.

**What kind of computers can students bring to campus?**
Any computer that meets the minimum specifications can be used. A list of possible tablets and netbooks, as well as the list of minimum specifications, is in the Technology section of SJND.org.

**How will students connect their computers while at school?**
As part of the Smart Classrooms renovation, SJND upgraded the wireless network and all students will receive a password to login to the network.

**How safe will the computers be at school?**
Since the computers will be used in all classes, they should be with students at all times. Students will need to safeguard their computers just as they would with an iPod or cell phone. Some families will be interested in ensuring that the computer is covered by insurance, either a home owner's insurance policy or computer insurance.

**Will inappropriate websites be blocked?**
Yes, access to the Internet through the school is mediated by a firewall and web-filtering software that blocks access to inappropriate websites.

**How will the school discourage computer usage that is inappropriate to classroom learning, such as Facebook or instant messaging?**
A skilled teacher has a variety of classroom management techniques to keep students engaged and discourage day-dreaming, texting, writing personal notes or using computers for purposes other than what's happening in the class. Teachers will have their own supervision standards and classroom policies to encourage participation. Students will also be required to sign a responsible-use agreement that will ensure all students and teachers share clear expectations.

**Will there be a loaner program for students if their computer malfunctions during the school day?**
Yes, students will be able to check out a loaner computer from the library.

**How will parents and students learn more about this program?**
The school provides more information in the technology section of the student handbook, and each fall, before the start of the school year, students participate in a BYOC Startup Camp during orientation.

**What support will the school give to a student if his/her computer stops working?**
All students will be shown how best to keep their computers up and running during orientation. They will learn about virus prevention, software update strategies, backup procedures and battery maintenance.  If a student's computer breaks down, they may utilize the school help desk, check out a loaner computer or be referred to a list of recommended service providers.

**Will class learning be impacted if there is a malfunction in the school's wireless network?**
The SJND network has been historically quite reliable, available and accessible over 99.9 percent of the time. If the primary line to the Internet is lost, it will automatically revert to the school's back-up line. Teachers are skilled in adapting their lesson plans according to the resources and materials available, and they will be comfortable making the best use of classroom time.