

Digital Citizenship Week 2016

Digital citizens know how to use their devices safely, responsibly, and respectfully.

Dear Families,

In Bend-La Pine Schools, as well as around the country, the week of October 16-22 has been designated as Digital Citizenship Week. As a parent and an educator, I know first-hand the importance of this topic and believe it is something we need to address with our children as part of their education. Digital devices are part of our society, and their presence can be both an asset and a challenge as we balance productivity, screen time, and being present in the moment with our teachers, friends and families. During this week, it is our hope that as a community we can open ourselves to learning and discussing the role that devices play in our home, school and work lives.

We have identified a digital citizenship focus for each grade level, and teachers will lead discussions around these topics during class times. You can find the the topic for your child's grade level listed to the right. We have also identified a Family Focus for each grade level which you will find described below. It is our hope that this family focus is something you can address throughout the school year in your home. Please make sure to check out the links and other support that our team has compiled and listed on our parent support site (<http://bit.ly/dcfamilysupport>). Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Skip Offenhauser

*Executive Director of Instructional Technology and Curriculum
Bend-La Pine Schools*

FAMILY FOCUS FOR KINDERGARTEN: TIMES FOR TECHNOLOGY

Kindergarten is an exciting year for students and families. With new routines, friends and expectations to balance we know that students and families can be quickly overwhelmed. Though it plays a small role in their overall school experience, technology is present in kindergarten classrooms and it is important that students start to recognize not only the tools they will be using, but appropriate times and ways to use those tools. As a family focus this year, we encourage you to build on this learning by discussing when and why technology can be used, and also when it's important to find other activities. Think about engaged screen time (learning focused) and unengaged screen time (games and shows that are not learning focused) and help your child understand that there is a difference between the two and a time for each, as well as a time for neither. Make sure to check out the resources on our support site for more ideas and resources that will help you support your kindergartner and his or her learning about the right times for technology.



Kindergarten
Introduction to Devices



DISCUSS

When are some good times to use technology? When should we put our digital devices away?



ACCESS RESOURCES

Please visit our parent support site:
<http://bit.ly/dcfamilysupport>



PARTICIPATE

What will your family pledge to do (or not do) with your digital devices this week? If you use Twitter, Facebook or Instagram please share and use the hashtag **#blsdigitalcitizens**. You may be featured on our website!