

Sept 3rd, 2024

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff:

Welcome back for another year in Mission Public Schools! We are looking forward to another year of learning, and growth for the 2024/25 school year. As most of you are aware, we sent out letters in June outlining some significant changes coming to technology usage in our schools beginning this year. While technology like computers and iPads will still be employed in schools for positive learning experiences, there will be changes to student use of other devices. Most significantly, students in K-9 will be expected to refrain from using Personal Digital Devices ('PDD') while at school, and 10-12 will refrain from using them during instructional times. There is considerable evidence that reducing use of PDD will improve learning and psychological well-being for students, and everyone else too.

Weaning ourselves off of technology, most particularly social media, is not easy - I camp 'off-grid' in the summer and still find myself wanting Wi-Fi, for example. To help support us all through this process the district has provided a number of helpful links for all of us.

For parents, please see our website: <http://www.mpsd.ca/Programs-Services/parents/Technology>

For students, please see our website: <http://www.mpsd.ca/Programs-Services/students/Technology>

For staff, please see our website: <https://padlet.com/sd75curriculum/adst-resources-bh550glgztj7>

Please check out some of the very useful articles and videos linked above. We have all experienced the negative impacts of social media, online bullying, and excessive screen time. Together, we can work to make a better, more resilient school community. As always, if you have questions, please contact me at the number above or via email at angus.wilson@mpsd.ca.

Thank you for your support with this ongoing issue.

Sincerely,



Angus Wilson
Superintendent of Schools