

# the Bellingham healthy technology Promise

**A lifetime of healthy and productive technology use:** We believe technology provides powerful tools to help children discover and develop passions, contribute to their communities, and achieve fulfilling and productive lives.

Throughout the school day, Bellingham Public Schools supports the use of technology that encourages creativity, supports healthy relationships, and develops essential critical thinking and communication skills.

**Our Vision:** In Bellingham, we encourage a lifetime of healthy technology by teaching developmentally appropriate technology skills, using technology as a tool to amplify powerful learning experiences, and supporting family and community priorities for digital health.



These simple **technology values** guide use to make healthy choices in our schools:

Use technology for **creating, collaborating, and communicating**

**Limit** media consumption, *choose activities that build relationships, new learning, and skills*

**Avoid** behaviors that are not healthy, kind, or safe

What does healthy and productive technology use look like?

1. Sustains healthy relationships (through social awareness and relationship skills)
2. Reinforces core social and emotional learning competencies of self-awareness and self-management
3. Acknowledges risks of technology use and proactively teaches digital citizenship
4. Prepares students to utilize existing and emerging technologies for educational or vocational purposes
5. Reflects the need for adult guidance and attention to student developmental needs
6. Understands and attends to equity issues of access and use

Our Policy and Procedure (2022) help align our daily practices with the healthy tech promise:

Students	
Families	
Classroom Teachers:	Use technology tools intentionally when they afford opportunities to communicate, learn, share, collaborate and create; to think and solve problems; to manage their work; and ensure students are ready for the widest range of educational and vocational options to support a diversity of life choices.
Library Media Specialists:	Support digital citizenship and experiences that build technology proficiency. Teach and support classroom instruction in critical media literacy and developing inquiry and research skills.
CTE	Support and guide students exploring careers and post-secondary certificate options.
Educational Technology Coaches:	Consult and collaborate with teachers to amplify powerful instructional experiences with technology resources. Examples include supporting elementary student digital portfolios with Seesaw, or using OneNote as a feedback and collaboration tool at grades 6-12.
Early Childhood:	Support appropriate technology use in preschool through primary years. Support parent education aligned with APA and other guidelines that emphasize importance of appropriate technology choices and boundaries for babies, toddlers, and young children.
Building Administrators and school support:	Model use of technology for staff collaboration and learning. Support student stewardship of resources, addressing behavior needs relating to technology use as part of comprehensive student behavior plan.
Department of Educational Technology:	Maintain safety, security of technology use, ensure staff and student use is consistent with mission and goals of BPS. Steward of public property and resources. Support innovation and overall direction of 1:1 program.
Family Engagement and Communications	Seek community input and support two way communication between schools and families.

Reference: <http://bellingshamschools.org/policies-and-procedures/>

For more information on how to put the healthy technology promise into practice, go to: <http://bellingshamschools.org/about/departments/educational-technology/>