

TRIUMPH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS (TPHS) BOARD POLICY

MANUAL

POLICY GROUP 1 – GOVERNANCE

TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT AND DEVICES TO STUDENTS

PG-1.305

Sec. 1. DEFINITIONS

“Data processing” has the meaning assigned by Section 2054.003, Texas Government Code.

“Electronic device” means a device that is capable of connecting to a cellular network or the Internet, including: (i) a computer; (ii) a smartphone; or (iii) a tablet.

“Internet filter” means a software application that is capable of preventing an electronic device from accessing certain websites or displaying certain online material.

Tex. Educ. Code § 32.101.

Sec. 2. STANDARDS FOR PERMISSIBLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND SOFTWARE APPLICATIONS

The Superintendent/CEO’s designee shall adopt standards for permissible electronic devices and software applications used by TPHS. Such standards shall comply with the *Standards for Permissible Electronic Devices and Software Applications* published by the Texas Education Agency.

Sec. 3. AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER EQUIPMENT TO STUDENTS

(a) Student Eligibility

A student is eligible to receive data processing equipment under this policy only if the student does not otherwise have home access to data processing equipment, as determined by TPHS. In transferring data processing equipment to students, TPHS shall give preference to educationally disadvantaged students. *Tex. Educ. Code § 32.103.*

(b) Equipment Eligible for Transfer

TPHS may transfer to a student enrolled in the school:

1. Any data processing equipment donated to TPHS, including equipment donated by (i) a private donor or (ii) a state eleemosynary institution or a state agency under Section 2175.905, Texas Government Code;
2. Any equipment purchased by TPHS, to the extent consistent with Texas Education Code § 32.105; and
3. Any surplus or salvage equipment owned by TPHS.

Tex. Educ. Code § 31.102(a).

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(c) Requirements for Transfer

Before transferring data processing equipment or an electronic device to a student, the Superintendent/CEO's designee must:

1. Adopt rules governing transfers under this policy, including provisions for technical assistance to the student by TPHS;
2. Determine that the transfer serves a public purpose and benefits TPHS;
3. Remove from the equipment any offensive, confidential, or proprietary information, as determined by TPHS;
4. Adopt rules establishing programs for promoting parents as partners in cybersecurity and online safety that involve parents in students' use of transferred equipment or electronic devices; and
5. For the transfer of an electronic device to be used for an educational purpose, install an Internet filter that blocks and prohibits pornographic or obscene materials or applications, including from unsolicited pop-ups, installations, and downloads.

Tex. Educ. Code § 32.104.

(d) Return of Equipment

Except as provided below, a student who receives data processing equipment from TPHS shall return the equipment to TPHS not later than the earliest of:

1. Five years after the date the student receives the equipment;
2. The date the student graduates;
3. The date the student transfers to another school district or open-enrollment charter school;
or
4. The state the student withdraws from school.

The requirement for a student to return data processing equipment does not apply if, at the time the student would otherwise be required to return the equipment, TPHS determines that the equipment has no marketable value.

Tex. Educ. Code § 32.106.

(e) Accepting Donations

TPHS may accept:

1. Donations of data processing equipment for transfer under Subchapter C, Chapter 32, Texas Education Code; or

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2. Any gifts, grants, or donations of money or services to purchase, refurbish, or repair data processing equipment under Subchapter C, Chapter 32, Texas Education Code.

Tex. Educ. Code § 31.102(b).

(f) *Expenditure of Public Funds*

TPHS may spend public funds to:

1. Purchase, refurbish, or repair any data processing equipment transferred to a student under this policy; and
2. Store, transport, or transfer data processing equipment under this policy.

Tex. Educ. Code § 32.105.