

## September 2019 Tip of the Month: Electronic Devices

This month's tip is to NEVER hand over your PERSONAL device to the district or law enforcement without a subpoena.

However, if it belongs to the district, you must give it to them. That is why I don't use my work Chromebook, IPAD, MacBook, etc. for any personal use. It has eyes (camera), ears (microphone) and a GPS Locator. Who cares if it is in your car over the weekend and you are visiting the BIG Eared Mouse? However, what would happen if you are there during a weekday when you are supposed to be at work? They could ping it and there is no explaining that place away. They can even look at the GPS locator later when someone hints of impropriety or a social media post makes its way to the district. For example, if a teacher is out sick for a week with a doctor's note, but in reality went to Italy on an unplanned work week vacation, and takes the work Chromebook with them to call into Aeries, do sub plans, etc., it would be possible for them to check the GPS locator and "discover" the truth.

Electronic devices this day and age are connected through Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, hotspots, and clouds. Connecting to a school or district Wi-Fi or checking your work email from your own personal device allows them an opening into anything you have on that device. That is why it is so important to separate home and work accounts and devices. As teachers, we are held to a higher standard than most and can lose our credentials for things that normal workers would not. Therefore, a picture of you drinking shots on the bar should not be seen by your bosses, but if it is on your phone that you use to check your work email or connect to AVUSD's Wi-Fi, they could. Recently we had an issue where the tech guy at a site went class to class searching for a phone connected to AVUSD's Wi-Fi that had malware on it. They interrupted classes and asked teachers to hand over their phone, most did because they were not even thinking.

If you are asked to hand over your phone you ask them for a subpoena. It will take the district time to get the subpoena if they can, and by that time, the union will have gotten you legal advice on what to do. If your personal devices are connected to AVUSD's Wi-Fi, please disconnect them now and forget the network. We are in the land of unlimited data really worth the amount you save? As always if you have any questions, email me.

### FOLLOW UP INFO:

At the urging of an AVUTA member, I spoke with Jason Buchanan about the Electronic Device tip and want to explain it a little better.

First, I did not mean to make it out like the district is out to get us, by invading our privacy. They rarely use most of the abilities they have, but I wanted you to know these things are possible. I don't want you to fear, they are watching your every move because they are not. Anything the district owns (their technology, WiFi, District Google, they have accessibility rights). Some would require subpoenas, however, some do not like our District Google Access (this usually happens if a member is placed on leave). Most things on our personal devices are encrypted and the district can only see we are on something like our personal Google, but not what we are doing (as of now they do not have the technology they would need to do that per Buchanan, but it is possible). Once your personal device leaves the network that information is gone forever unless accessed again on the Wi-fi ) (like snapchat).

My main reason for sending this tip was not to cause a divide but to inform you it is better to separate work and personal accounts/devices. We have several teachers that do not even have a personal email, computer/laptop, or google account so they just use their work account/device for everything including personal things (bills, photos on the cloud, credit card number storage) and I have been told by many organizations including CTA Legal, it is not wise. I spoke to THREE people in IT today and all of them said they do not use the district Wi-Fi on their personal devices.

Again this was a tip, to make you aware and let you make the decision on whether to use it or not.