



USD 487 Tech Bytes

Technology for Learning

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Welcome to Tech Bytes!

This is the first in a series intended to keep students and staff informed about technology at the Herington High School. Included will be common errors encountered and possible fixes, recommended websites, and announcements of opportunities for training.

If you have questions about technology you would like answered and feel the answer should be shared with all of the staff and students, email jutech@usd487.org. The year is off to a great start! Laptops are being used daily in many classrooms and beyond. Stay informed with Tech Bytes!

Internet at Home.

While the laptops are getting a good workout at school for the High School students, they are also used at home. The same wireless connection part of the computer will work at home, *if you have wireless services there!* The school wireless internet connectivity will work in all of the school buildings and immediately outside of them. If you desire to use the Internet at home, you will need to provide the internet service and a wireless access point to use there.

Connection to the Internet away from the school can be accomplished by:

1. Power on the computer as workstation only
2. Make sure the antenna is turned on (look for the blue indicator light on the front of the computer).
3. Select Start/Connect To/ Wireless Network Connection
4. Click View Wireless Connections and select your access point. (you may need to enter a security code to be connected).

Login error...

One of the common errors encountered by students comes from closing the lid on the laptop. This action puts the computers to sleep and disconnects the network connection. When you open the laptop again, many times there is a network error, keeping you from connecting to the network again. This failure to login is a direct result of losing the network connection. Until you restore the network connection, you will not be able to login.

The solution can be one of two things.

1. Restart the computer! This will re-establish the network connection before you are asked to login.
2. Login as workstation only:
 - a. Use the dropdown menu in the Novell Client for Windows login to change from e-Directory to Windows. This will allow you to login as the user "student" in workstation only. (There is no password on this local user login)
 - b. Once logged in, you can reconnect to the network by right clicking on the big red N in the lower right corner of your screen and selecting "Novell Login"
 - c. Enter your user name and your password... then click "OK"

Either method will reconnect you to the network allowing you access to your workspace and to network programs.

Wireless Antenna Indicator

If you have looked at the front edge of your laptop you will notice there are three lights on the left. The first light indicates the power status (on or off). The second indicates if the computer is plugged in and if it is charging. The third light tells you if your wireless antenna is turned on (*important if you are trying to connect to the network*). If the light is not on, then your antenna is off! This can happen if you manually turn it off by pressing the antenna button at the top of the keyboard or if you have been away from a wireless signal for a time (*the computer turns off the antenna to save battery*)

If the light is off, press the button (*it looks like a computer screen with radio signals on each side*) once. The light will turn on and the connection will be restored in a few seconds.

Key Websites:

Herington Schools

www.heringtonschools.org

School Library

books.usd487.org

Grades Online

Connect via link on the district website

E-mail

mail.usd487.org

