BYOD vs EPD

A Comparison Between Policies

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BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)

Definition: Employee/student owned devices used within a business/school.

Pros:

-Up-to-date technology
-Increased Digital Literacy
-Access to information
-Students already know their tech
-Cost-effective
-Many apps for educational use
-Majority already own devices

Cons:

-Widens the digital divide
-Teachers become tech problem solvers
-Bring your own personal distraction
-Access to too much information
-Inconsistent technology
-Wireless network bandwidth issues
-Students/parents may not be able to afford the tech
-Apps may not be universal to all devices
-Non-tech savvy teachers may resist using technology

EPD (Employer Provided Device)

Definition: Employer owned devices being used by employees/students.

Pros:

-Devices will be the same/easy to manage
-Digital Divide becomes a non-issue
-Apps don't need to be universal
-Expectations set for work computers become less of a distraction
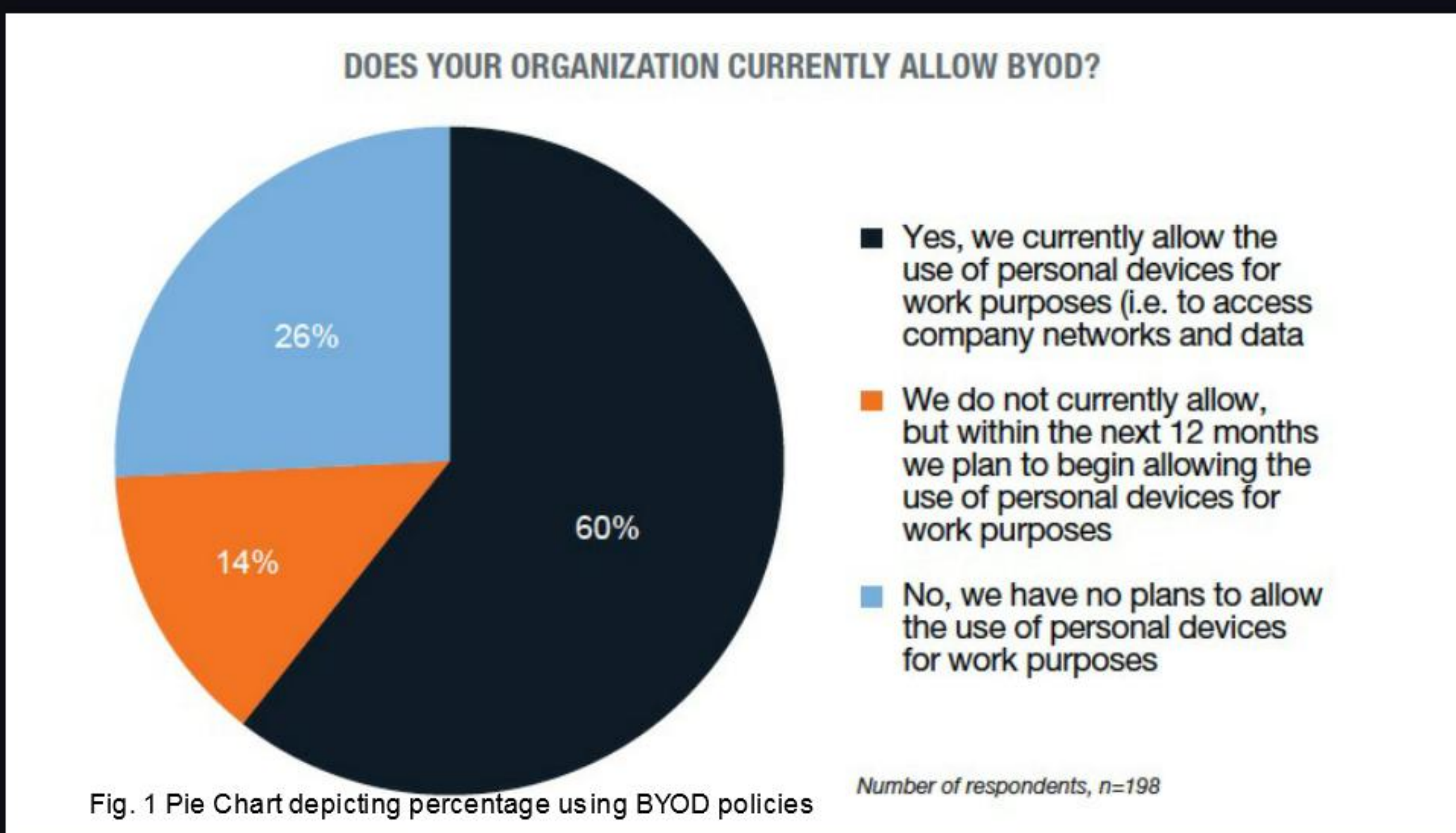-Teacher doesn't become IT support

Cons:

-Costly ($180/Chromebook) Cheapest option
-IT gets an increased workload
-Liability issues?
-Policies need to be concrete
-Lack of choice in devices
-Tech may be liable to become outdated

Which Policy is more Prevalent?

BYOD has become increasingly prevalent in recent years in the business world. Some of the reasoning behind this trend are:
-Cost effectiveness - Employees rather than employers purchase and manage their tech
-Strong BYOD policies correlate into sound security measures to protect business interests
-Cloud computing and BYOD compliment each other
-Increases worker morale and productivity - easier to learn and be more productive on a device they prefer than a company device

DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION CURRENTLY ALLOW BYOD?

26%
14%
60%

- Yes, we currently allow the use of personal devices for work purposes (i.e. to access company networks and data
- We do not currently allow, but within the next 12 months we plan to begin allowing the use of personal devices for work purposes
- No, we have no plans to allow the use of personal devices for work purposes

Fig. 1 Pie Chart depicting percentage using BYOD policies

Number of respondents, n=198

Cost Savings BYOD over EPD

According to Nancy Chen's BYOD cost analysis a BYOD policy saves the company time and money.

On average a user using their own device will be more productive and save about 81 minutes per week.

In addition the cost savings of using a BYOD over EPD policy is as follows:

Cost savings of device and upgrades - $935/device
IT support savings - $26/user
Cost savings of device telecommunication plans - $734/user

The total savings amounts to $1695 just in technology let alone productivity savings. Granted these numbers are from businesses operating in the United States and also not in a school situation, however some of these savings would be similar when trying to equip students with 1:1 device ratio.

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