

General FAQ

What will this cost me?

If you have a laptop or tablet at home, that your student can bring to school, there will be no cost. You also have the option to lease a Chromebook from the school for approximately \$80 per year (school retains ownership of device). This leasing fee would be added to your yearly Textbook Rental bill. If your student qualifies for free or reduced lunch, your student may be provided a school-owned laptop for use during the school year at no cost.

Will the district be coordinating purchasing opportunities for laptops?

No. The school-owned device will be the Chromebook. The advantage of the Chromebook is it costs about \$199-\$315. Information about the Chromebook and how to order one can be found at:

<http://www.google.com/chrome/devices/>

What happens if a device is damaged, stolen or lost?

If another student's computer is intentionally damaged or stolen by another student, the incident will be treated like any other disciplinary action within the school day. The district is not responsible for any damage or loss that could occur to a student's device. Parents can purchase extended warranties and insurance through the vendor they purchase their computer from. If a student damages, or loses a school computer, the parent will be responsible for paying the school's \$25 insurance deductible or repairing or replacing the computer if the damage was negligence not covered by the school's insurance policy.

Will there be devices available if a student does not bring one from home?

Given the number of these devices already owned by students and the low or no cost options to parents, it is our expectation that students bring a laptop or tablet to school. However, we will still have our current computer labs in the high school.

How will teachers use the increased technology?

The answer to that question is that it depends on the teacher. The classroom teacher knows the best way to reach their students. We feel it is in our student's best interest to let that classroom teacher decide what works best for them. Some teachers are using technology to increase student collaboration while learning. Others are using technology tools as a supplement to the classroom lessons. There are several online tutorials available to students.

Are students more distracted by having their own devices in the classroom?

It is still the teacher's discretion as to when students can use their devices in the classroom. If distraction becomes an issue, teachers handle it as if they would handle any other type of distraction (ie – through the Code of Conduct).

Have you noticed an increase in student performance because of BYOD?

It can be difficult to prove causality in a complex system such as education (think of all the factors that affect student performance). Here's what we do know. Because of BYOD and other eLearning initiatives:

- Students have access to their course materials and instruction anywhere and anytime
- Staff members are gaining efficiencies which allows them to provide more (and valuable) feedback to their students

- Students have more opportunities to take courses (for example, online offerings and/or hybrid courses).

- Students are gaining valuable real world experiences that will help them perform well in the 21st century.

Taken as a whole, we believe BYOD and eLearning has a positive effect on student performance.