



High School 1:1 Technology Initiative

- As part of the funds from the 2016 Bond, increased student access to technology is reaching our high school students in Olathe. Beginning during the 2017-18 school year, high school students will receive a MacBook laptop to use during their high school years in the Olathe Public Schools.

- As we look into the future of education, we need to consider that the 21st century is increasingly complex, global, and networked. Our challenge, as educators, is to prepare students using innovative solutions that provide personalized learning, wherever possible. With this in mind, the 1:1 high school technology initiative is meant to improve students' ability to thrive and think critically in an information-rich world.



- The expanded use of technology in the classroom is an innovative way to reach today's students, digital natives in a continuously evolving digital world. We live in a digital age where kids are comfortable with technology, which has proven to be an effective resource in student learning. With Mac Books in their hands, their learning resources will all be in one piece of equipment. An important way teachers are using technology to drive instruction is through hands-on, project-based learning.



Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: What device will each student receive? Why?

A: A large group of teachers and members of the district's Technology Division researched, studied and tested numerous devices over a multi-year period and determined that the MacBook Air would be best device for high school students. MacBook Airs have a much longer battery life, much lower repair rate, and are much less expensive than all the other models we tested.

Q: If my student already has a laptop, do they need the school-issued one?

A: Yes, it will be necessary for all students to be using the same device as teachers will be leading class projects that will require students to have the same technology to further instruction.

Q: Will training be provided for students and parents?

A: Absolutely, there will be student device training as well as in-depth lessons on digital citizenship. In addition, there will be parent information nights where parents can learn more about MacBooks and how they will be used in the Olathe Public Schools.



Q: Will students take the laptops home?

A: Yes, students will take the laptops home in the evening and will be required to bring them back to school each day. Being able to take the laptop home will allow students to continue the educational process and use the important technology tool on home work.

Q: What if the laptop is damaged or lost?

A: Students will be required to pay a fee if their laptop is damaged or lost. The fee will be based on the age of the laptop and the specific repairs required.

Q: What if we do not have WiFi at home?

A: MacBooks continue to have enormous value even when not in a wireless environment. We are working with teachers to be sensitive to the individual needs of students when assigning homework. We are also working with various community partners to identify locations that welcome students to use their free and public WiFi – the library, for example.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How will my students be prepared for the responsibility of having their own MacBook?

A: The district has developed a comprehensive digital citizenship program that all students will attend. The digital citizenship program helps students recognize the rights, responsibilities and opportunities of living, learning and working in an interconnected digital world, and will teach them how they must act and model in ways that are safe, legal and ethical. Students will learn to cultivate and manage their digital identity and reputation and become aware of the permanence of their actions in the digital world. Students will learn to demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the rights and obligations of using and sharing intellectual property.

Q: Will students have physical textbooks or will they all be online?

A: Many textbooks will be available online, but there may be some that will be physical textbooks. Given that we have, in most instances, already purchased textbooks for students, teachers and/or departments will have the choice of how (or whether) they incorporate physical textbooks in their classroom.

Q: Will there be repercussions, as far as behavior with the computers? What if students are not using them correctly at school or at home?

A: Students will be required to follow the Code of Student Conduct and the Acceptable Use Policy while using the laptop.

Q: Who can we contact for technical support?

A: Students will have a variety of support options. Each high school will have a full time technologist assigned to support the devices. Each laptop will also allow students to submit work orders. Additionally, we are working to support a student technology team available each hour of the day to assist students. Finally, we will provide many digital resources online for students to access.



High School 1:1 Technology Initiative



Notification Statement of Non-discrimination:

The Olathe Public Schools prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability in its programs, activities or employment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups to its facilities as required by: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other relevant state and federal laws. Inquiries regarding compliance with applicable civil rights statutes related to ethnicity, gender, age discrimination or equal access may be directed to Staff Counsel, 14160 Black Bob Road, Olathe, KS 66063-2000, phone 913-780-7000. All inquiries regarding compliance with applicable statutes regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent General Administration, 14160 Black Bob Rd. Olathe, KS 66063-2000, phone (913) 780-7000. Interested persons including those with impaired vision or hearing, can also obtain information as to the existence and location of services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by disabled persons by calling the Assistant Superintendent General Administration. (04/13)