

Greetings,

We are embarking on an exciting journey in Greenfield-Central Schools, by bringing 1-to-1 devices to all grades K-12 for this upcoming 2018-2019 school year! This will be the first year that all students in Greenfield-Central Schools will have personal access to a device to use for educational purposes. To help inform you as parents/guardians of this new portion of our digital learning initiative, we have compiled some important information to alleviate concerns, questions, and curiosities:

Device Information:

- Students in grades K-4 will be using iPads. Students in K-1 will use iPads with a durable, military grade protective case issued to them. Students 2-4 will use iPads housed in a rugged case with a keyboard attachment to assist in their educational activities. All students will be issued their own charger.
- Students in grades 5-6 will use Chromebooks for the year. They will be issued a carrying bag to help protect the device while in transit. All students will be issued their own charger.
- Students in grades 7-12 will continue to use the MacBook Air device and carrying bag for the upcoming school year. All students will be issued their own charger.

Cost of this initiative:

- When we went 1-to-1 with our secondary buildings, we froze the current textbook rate to ensure parents were not paying more for this additional educational tool. We plan to do the same for our Elementary and Intermediate rates as well.
- Insurance will be offered to parents to help cover damage or loss of the device. Insurance premiums will be approximately \$35 with a \$25 deductible for iPads and Chromebooks, and \$50 premium with a \$40 deductible for MacBook Airs. Full replacement cost for the iPads will be approximately \$400, Chromebooks will be \$250, and MacBook Airs will be \$800.

Screen Time

- As we increase access to devices, we remind all staff that students should not see a major increase in the amount of screen time throughout the day. We encourage a better and more intentional planning opportunity to incorporate educational technology when it is appropriate for the scheduled learning activities of the day. In the past, with shared computer carts, teachers only had the opportunity to use the devices when other teachers did not have them checked out. Now teachers can plan what is best for students without the concern of accessing the devices, as all students will have their own.

Security

- All school devices will be filtered through the School Web Filtering services, both while at school and when at home. We do our best to ensure web safety by providing these filters, as well as digital citizenship instruction, to all students. We will have more information available to all parents at the beginning of the school year.

eLearning Days

- With the access now being 1-to-1, a commonly asked question is in regards to eLearning Days for both alternate learning opportunities, which are scheduled in advance, and for inclement weather make-up days. We do plan to have both available for next school year. When we have scheduled the specific dates for eLearning Days, we will release those dates to our families early in the school year. Inclement Weather days will be held on days in which school is cancelled due to weather-related factors. Next year's dates for these scheduled days will be Wednesday, September 26, 2018; Thursday, November 1, 2018; and Wednesday, January 30, 2019.
- Scheduled eLearning Days in Greenfield-Central Schools provide a unique opportunity for ALL stakeholders to learn!
 - Opportunity for students to experience a different type of learning;
 - Opportunity for staff to receive Professional Development;
 - Opportunity for parents to learn about devices used and activities completed at school;
 - Opportunity to learn without losing momentum, even during inclement weather
- Inclement Weather eLearning Days provide an opportunity to have students learn while at home to maintain learning momentum during inclement weather, prevent additional make-up days, and add the option of staying safe during extreme weather events.

Devices Going Home

- Students will eventually take home devices with a gradual release of responsibility. In short, as students progress through the year, and throughout grade levels, their devices will go home more frequently.
 - For example, you could expect that a 3rd grade student will take the device home with more frequency than a 1st grader, but that all students would bring devices home for scheduled eLearning Days or potentially inclement weather. As the year progresses, you may see an increased amount of device transportation to the home to extend learning opportunities.

Thank you for partnering with us in the education of your child. We look forward to your support as we offer digital access to all students!

Greenfield-Central Community School Corporation