

# Washington Township School District One-to-One Computer Initiative



## • Frequently Asked Questions •

### **Q: Why is the District engaging in a 1:1 laptop initiative?**

**A:** Putting mobile learning devices into our students' hands will allow teaching and learning to become more differentiated and student-centered. Laptops will allow the District to engage students in real-world activities and projects and extend learning beyond the classroom and the school day, providing 24/7 access to the software and online resources that students use in school. Deploying laptops also will help us to promote a culture of life-long learning, responsible digital citizenship, personal ownership and college readiness. As we believe that technology plays a vital and meaningful role in teaching and learning today, we are offering this necessary tool to our students. Providing a standard, District-issued device allows all students to have consistent and equal access to cutting-edge technology.

### **Q: Who will be included in the new 1:1 computer initiative?**

**A:** All Washington Township high school and middle school students will be issued laptop computers in advance of the start of the 2017-18 school year. They also will be issued laptop carrying cases that are required to be used at all times, including when moving between classes.

### **Q: What type of laptop computers will be distributed?**

**A:** All students will be receiving either a Dell laptop computer with Windows 10, as well as a protective laptop case.

### **Q: How will the laptops be distributed?**

**A:** Parents/guardians of WTHS incoming freshmen and middle school students will be informed of summer dates when they can pick up their new laptops.

### **Q: What procedures are in place for tracking the laptops?**

**A:** Laptops will be assigned through the District information technology staff to individual stu-

dents. Each laptop will contain a serial number that is associated with that student and limited GPS tracking capabilities to be used should the device be reported as lost or stolen. The District retains the rights to collect issued laptops at any time and inspect them for appropriate usage and care. The laptops are the property of the Washington Township Public Schools.

### **Q: Can District staff remotely access the computer?**

**A:** District staff can remotely access the computer only when it is in school/in District and connected to the District network. District staff cannot remotely access the PC and/or built-in camera while off campus/disconnected from the District network.

### **Q: What happens if a student's laptop, including a loaner laptop, is damaged, stolen or lost?**

**A:** Students are responsible for the appropriate use of their laptop computer. They are expected to take care of the equipment to prevent it from being damaged, stolen or lost. Parents/guardians will have the option of purchasing insurance coverage to cover accidental damage or theft of the laptop. Optional insurance does not protect against loss or negligence. Parents/guardians are responsible for the full replacement cost of any lost device. Detailed information about purchasing insurance is available on the District website (<http://www.wtps.org/onetoone>).

### **Q: Will loaner laptops be available for students who forget to bring them to school?**

**A:** Students are responsible for bringing their laptop to school each day, taking them home each night and ensuring that the laptops are fully charged for use the following day. Loaner laptops will not be available. Failure to bring a laptop to class will not be an acceptable excuse for late or incomplete work or inability to participate in class activities.

**Q: Will students have the ability to download software on their laptops?**

**A:** All student laptops will come installed with Microsoft Windows 10, internet capability and pre-loaded software for coursework. All installed software may not be uninstalled. They also will have web-filtering and anti-virus software which must remain turned on and active at all times. Students may not download or install software or apps to their computer unless permission has been granted from the IT Department. Students may not change the computer name or remove or change operating system extensions. Students are expected to comply with ethical-use guidelines and abide by all federal copyright and Fair Use laws as they relate to downloading music, games or programs. Capturing video, audio or photography without the consent of classroom teachers is strictly forbidden.

**Q. Can a parent/guardian or student attempt to fix a damaged laptop?**

**A:** Never attempt to physically repair or reconfigure a District-issued laptop. Under no circumstance should a parent/guardian or student open or tamper with the internal components of the laptop. Doing so will render the warranty void. Any and all repairs may only be performed by the District's I.T. Department.

**Q: Where is the IT Support Center located, and what assistance is provided there?**

**A:** The Township Tech Center is located in room C19 at Washington Township High School. Middle school students will find support in Room 119 at both Chestnut Ridge and Orchard Valley Middle schools and in Room B17 at Bunker Hill Middle School. Students should come to these locations for any support/assistance needs. Loaner laptops, for when a student's laptop is being serv-



iced, will be distributed and collected here. The IT Support staff will help students with any district-issued technology, district email, and software issues related to the curriculum.

**Q. Can laptops be loaned to other students and/or family members?**

**A:** Students may not lend laptops or laptop components to others, including family members, for any reason.

**Q. Can a parent/guardian refuse to have their child participate in the 1:1 Initiative?**

**A:** Yes. Participation is optional. At the time of refusal, the building principal or the designee shall be responsible for making necessary accommodations for the student to ensure that the student's education is not adversely affected. Such accommodations will be made on an individualized basis and may include signing out a loaner laptop each day at the Support Center in the morning and returning it at the end of the school day. Students issued a loaner laptop are still responsible for its care while at school. Students not participating in the initiative will be able to access limited building-based computers in areas such as the library/media center, art, music and technology education classrooms.

A student is not permitted to bring a personally owned computer, tablet or other mobile device to school as "Bringing Your Own Device" (BYOD) currently is not an option supported by the District.

**Q: Will elementary students be receiving laptops?**

**A:** Elementary students in grades 3-5 will be assigned a dedicated laptop to use throughout the school day but will not be permitted to transport the laptops home.

**Please note: A complete list of Student Guidelines for the WTPS 1:1 Laptop Computer Initiative has been posted on the District website and will be distributed at the time of laptop distribution in August 2017.**

**Please visit: <http://www.wtps.org/onetoon> for detailed information.**