

### **1. Will my student REALLY need one? What will they be doing with the Chromebooks?**

Having the Chromebook will greatly benefit your students' education. Teachers will be able to provide students with access to the best resources to meet their needs. Students will be able to access these resources both at home and at school.

Google Chromebooks are centered around the use of the Google Apps for Education. The Google Apps include Google Docs (similar to Microsoft Word), Google Slides (similar to Power Point), Google Sheets (similar to Excel) , and Google Classroom --- which is a way for teachers to deliver content to students and for students to share work with the teachers. If students each have their own Chromebook, it will tremendously help them in their learning, and in completing assignments and receiving feedback from their teachers.

We plan for extra Chromebooks to be housed in each classroom for the students who do not have their own checked out. These will be available on a limited basis, however. If a student has their own Chromebook, they will be guaranteed access to the information that they need.

### **2. What if we don't have WiFi at home?**

There are some functions of the Chromebook that will work off-line. Students can access their Google Drive at home. This is where their files are saved. They can also create new documents off-line. The work will be synced and saved the next time they log-in.

### **3. Can my student bring their own laptop or device from home?**

Yes, they could. But it might not be the best option. First of all, we are providing the students with the protective carrying case. The Chromebooks are smaller and lighter. The Chromebooks will easily fit in the students book bags and the batteries on a Chromebook are long-lasting. I have a Chromebook and I can work on it all day without recharging it. It will also be much easier for the teachers and the technology staff to troubleshoot problems if all of the students are using the same type of devices. The school-issued Chromebooks will also work with the printers that will be located throughout the campus. The students' own personal devices will not.

### **4. Are computers replacing teachers? Are students just going to be looking at computers all day?**

The answer to both of those questions is **definitely not**. As previously stated, teachers will be using the devices to enhance and expand learning opportunities, not replace teacher instruction. What we plan to implement is a blended learning model. The term blended learning is generally applied to the practice of using both online and in-person learning experiences when teaching students. In a blended-learning course, for example, students might attend a class taught by a

teacher in a traditional classroom setting, while also independently completing online components of the course outside of the classroom. This will allow the teachers to differentiate instruction to meet the individual needs of the students.

We also know that many (or most) college courses follow this instructional model. It's also very difficult to think of a career in which technology use is not a component. We hope that by providing the Chromebooks to students and access to the best resources, we are better preparing them for both college and the work force.