

Heyworth CUSD #4 Student Parent One-to-One Chromebook FAQ's

Dear Parents:

We wanted to provide a quick one-to-one Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) sheet to answer some of the questions that we think you might have about the one-to-one Chromebook initiative. One of our goals is to prepare our students to be future-ready "global learners." We envision Chromebooks becoming an important part of a student's education.

What grades will the one-to-one Chromebook initiative start with and when? The one-to-one Chromebook initiative will start in grades 5, 6, 9 and 10 in the 2016-2017 school year. The District also plans to have Chromebook carts available in all second, third, and fourth grade classrooms as well as junior high English, Social Studies, and Science classrooms. Chromebook carts will also be available in all high school English, Social Studies, and Science classrooms.

What will the student cost breakdown be for Chromebooks? Students in grades 5, 6, 9 and 10 will pay an annual Technology Fee of \$75 each year. At the end of the four years, the device ownership will transfer to the student. This fee covers an extended warranty which includes the Google management license and accidental coverage protection. Cost breakdown: Chromebook \$200, Google Management License \$30, 4 year Accidental Coverage Warranty \$60, \$10 Chromebook Sleeve.

What if a student qualifies for "Free or Reduced" lunch? Students that qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch are exempt from being charged the technology fee, but if they want to keep the device after the 4 years they must pay the fee.

Can students use their own Chromebook devices at school? Unfortunately, no. We explored this concept called Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) but decided against it for several reasons. Student and staff safety, along with consistency on devices requires that only authorized school Chromebooks be used. This importance is magnified during state testing periods when devices must be "locked down" to meet the rigid state testing guidelines. Locking down a "BYOD" device would not be possible.

What happens if a student "forgets" to bring their Chromebook to school or it isn't fully charged? Students will be responsible for bringing their devices to school fully charged on a daily basis. Students who don't bring their device to school will have to "make-up" any missed work and/or do alternative work with paper and pencil. Teachers will cover these expectations with their students.

Can students charge the device at school? No. Students should charge their devices at home.

What happens if my student doesn't have internet access at home? Students without an internet option at home will be able to create and edit documents offline. Families with financial

need should contact their cable provider at mediacomc2c.com to obtain reduced cost internet connectivity.

What happens if the technology fee isn't paid? The technology fee will be treated just like all other school registration fees. If a family is experiencing undue financial hardships, they are encouraged to call the unit office to set up an appointment to make a payment plan.

Will students use their Chromebooks in all classes? No. The Chromebooks are a learning tool. And, just like any other tool, there will be better applications for it in some instances than in others.

Will internet safety filters be provided for students in the home environment? Yes. Since the device is owned by the school, all internet traffic will run through school filters even when students access the internet from home.

How did the Heyworth Education Foundation's (HEF) grant benefit the 1:1 rollout? The grant was for the school district to purchase more devices for another 2 grade levels to also benefit with 1:1 process quicker than what the district was financially able to purchase. The fee is a 4 year process that pays for the device and all other parts of the purchase for a student, as listed out in the cost breakdown section above.

If you have other questions regarding the one-to-one Chromebook initiative, please email your questions to: Superintendent Dr. Ty Wolf at twolf@husd4.org or Technology Director Dan Zobel at zobeld@husd4.org.