

Sheridan Middle School 1:1 Digital Learning Initiative



Beginning with the 2015-2016 school-year, all Sheridan Middle School students will be immersed in a technology rich environment, which will connect, engage, inspire and empower students with 21st century skills, as it will be an integral part of daily life. The mission of this initiative is to use technology **effectively** to increase student engagement thereby increasing student achievement in all areas. At Sheridan Community Schools, we feel technology is a **tool** that can enhance learning and allow students to grow in their learning.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Did the school district research and visit other schools that have already implemented 1:1 initiatives to help with the decision-making?
 - a. Yes, we have been preparing for this for many years and our staff, teachers and several students have visited other schools who have implemented successful 1:1 programs, including: Maconaquah, East Noble, Wayne Township, Homestead, Triton Central, Danville, Westfield Washington, Hamilton Heights and Center Grove, to name a few.
2. Will SMS still utilize computer labs?
 - a. Yes. We will still have computer labs available for testing, and other academic purposes to supplement our 1:1 program.
3. What device will my student receive?
 - a. Students in grades 6-8 will receive a Google Chromebook and protective case.
4. Why were the specific devices selected?
 - a. The Chromebook was chosen because it is virtually virus free and provides students with a similar work environment as a traditional laptop at a very economical price. The web based applications allow for quick and efficient access. In addition, we are a Google for Education School and will be using Google Apps for Education (GAFE) as our Learning Management system. Chromebooks work seamlessly with GAFE.
5. Will students be able to take their device home?
 - a. Yes. After a period of orientation at school early next fall, we will host family nights where the students and a parent can come to school, fill out our registration forms, participate in a parent orientation, and pick up their device. Those specific dates and times will be announced in the future.

6. What if I do not have Internet at home?
 - a. Documents and files that your student might need to work on at home can be downloaded on the device at school for off-line access at home. Once the student brings back the device and logs in, it will sync with their GAFE account. In addition, the Sheridan Public Library offers free wifi.
7. Will the device belong to the student?
 - a. No. The Chromebook will remain the property of SCS. Students will be assigned a device just like they would a textbook.
8. Will the students be able to keep the Chromebooks over the summer?
 - a. No. The devices will be collected at the end of the school year so they can be upgraded, cleaned and repaired if needed. Students will be reissued their same Chromebooks the following school year.
9. What happens if my student's device stops working?
 - a. The SCS Technology Department will be responsible for all repairs. A request will be made to the Technology Help Desk and they will repair the device. A loaner device can be checked out to your student while the original machine is being serviced.
10. What happens if my device is physically damaged?
 - a. Normal maintenance and repair issued will be handled by SCS. However, when damages are determined to have been caused by not following safety procedures outlined by the SCS Responsible Use Policy, the student will be responsible for all charges associated with the repair of the device.

	Broken Screen	Headphone/Jack	Power Adapter	Other
Accidental	1 st Offense- \$50 2 nd Offense- \$60 3 rd Offense- \$200	\$25	\$45	Repair cost or \$50, whichever is less
Intentional	Cost of the repair or \$200 whichever is less	\$50	\$45	Repair cost or \$50, whichever is less

** Any issue covered by the standard warranty of the Chromebook will result in no charge to the student.*

** School administrators are responsible for determining if the damage is accidental or intentional.*

** Repair costs are subject to change*

11. What happens if my student's device is lost or stolen?
 - a. If a device is lost or stolen at school, the student must immediately notify a teacher or administrator. If the device is lost or stolen outside of school, the police must be contacted immediately and the school principal must be notified. **The student will be responsible for the cost of replacing the device at the current value.**

12. How will my student be protected while on the Internet?
 - a. While the Chromebook is on an Internet connection provided by SCS, access will be filtered to meet federal guidelines (Child Internet Protection Act) as has always been our practice. Mobile device software will be installed to ensure those same protection policies are in place when off school premises. While no Internet filtering system is 100% effective, we encourage adult supervision and involvement with the student.
13. What happens if a student leaves SMS during the school year?
 - a. Students will be required to return their assigned Chromebook along with the power adapter and protective cover. If the device is found to be in good working order with only normal wear and tear, nothing else will be needed from the student. Any device not returned to SMS upon leaving will be considered theft and reported to the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department.
14. Will students be able to print from Chromebooks?
 - a. No. One of our goals with digital curriculum is to reduce the need for printing. However, in the event that a student needs to print a document created in Google Docs, he/she may log into a school desktop computer in a lab or media center and will be able to print.