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Dear Parents:

As you know, in September 2017, all students in Grades 1 through 8 were assigned a Chromebook Laptop Computer for their individual use while in our schools. Chromebooks will again be distributed during the first weeks of school in September 2018 in each building. We are proud to be able to provide students with this important learning tool on a 1:1 basis.

I have attached a copy of Board of Education Policy #6142.10, which outlines our acceptable use guidelines for Internet Safety and Technology. Our expectation, as it has been in the past, is that you will review this policy with your child and return the completed acknowledgement to your child's school as soon as possible. Chromebooks will not be issued to students who have not returned this form.

Please allow me to share the guidelines that will be outlined to all students by our teachers and administrators regarding the 1:1 program in Mount Laurel. Your assistance in supporting these principles is key to the overall success of the program.

Ownership for all Chromebook computers assigned for student use will be retained by Mount Laurel Schools. Our Technology Department will be responsible for purchasing apps and e-materials, and will push-out system updates and applications automatically. Chromebooks are specifically for classroom use and will not leave Mount Laurel school buildings for any reason.

Students are responsible for appropriate care and use of the device at all times while in their possession. Our administrators and teachers in each school will outline safety precautions with students such as not placing liquids near the computer and safe handling to avoid dropping. At Hartford and Harrington Schools, where students change classes, protective cases will again be issued to each student along with the Chromebook. Name tags will be distributed to identify each case.

Students in Grades 5-8 should always use their zipped carrying case when traveling throughout the building. These cases are for the Chromebook only and **should not be used as a book bag**. Chromebooks are to be stored in lockers for lunch and physical education periods. At all grade levels, the computers are to be returned to homeroom classrooms at the end of each day and stored in a charging unit.

One significant change in practice this year is that students and parents will be financially responsible for any damages to their computers. In the event of a malfunction, a limited number of "loaner" units will be stored in each school. Minor issues with the computers are anticipated; however, any damage or destruction that is found to be the result of malicious or intentional misuse will result in financial and/or disciplinary consequences.

The following is a pricing list for repairs:

LCD Screen: \$40
Keyboard/Touchpad: \$90
Plastic LCD Bezel: \$30
Plastic Top or Back Cover: \$30
Charger: \$30
Bag: \$20
Liquid Spill (Replacing Motherboard): \$110
Replace Device: \$198

Mount Laurel teachers and administrators have long been adept at the use of technology in the classroom. These devices are an important tool in a 21st century classroom. They provide opportunities for research, collaboration, and global connections.

I hope you will join me in celebrating this advancement for our students and assist in reinforcing the guiding principles in your home that will result in its continued success.

Sincerely,

George J. Rafferty

Consent and Waiver Agreement

Board of Education Policy #6142.10 • Internet Safety and Technology

Parents must review and sign the acknowledgement form that follows. Acknowledgement form must be returned to your child's school. By signing this consent and waiver agreement, parents/guardians state that they have discussed the rights and responsibilities contained herein and agree to abide by the restrictions contained in this agreement.

Further, parent/s or legal guardians are hereby advised that the Board and its employees do not have control over the information on the Internet, although the Board shall attempt to provide prudent and available barriers to objectionable material. Sites accessible by way of the Internet may contain material that is illegal, defamatory, inaccurate or potentially offensive to certain individuals. The intention of the Board is to make the Internet available for the purpose of furthering its educational goals and objectives. The Board does not guarantee that pupils will not find some means to access materials not linked with those goals and objectives.

Because the school district provides, through connection to the Internet, access to other computer systems around the world, pupils and their parent/s or legal guardian/s understand that the Board and its employees have no control over content. While most of the content on the Internet is innocuous and much of it is a valuable educational resource, some objectionable material exists. The Board will provide pupils access to the Internet resources only in supervised environments and has taken steps to lock out objectionable areas to the extent possible, but potential dangers remain. Pupils and their parent/s or guardian/s are advised that some systems may contain defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, or otherwise illegal material. The Board and its employees do not condone the use of such materials and do not permit usage of such materials in the school environment. Parent/s or legal guardian/s having accounts on the Internet should be aware of the existence of such materials and monitor home usage of the school district computer network. Pupils who knowingly bring such materials into the school environment will be disciplined in accordance with Board policies and regulations and such activities may result in termination of such pupils' accounts on the computer network and their use of computers.

The Board believes that the benefits to staff and pupils from access to the Internet as a source of information and collaboration, outweighs the disadvantages of access. Ultimately, the Board recognizes that it is the responsibility of parents and legal guardians to set and convey the standards pupils should follow over and above school standards. Toward that end, the Board respects each family's right to determine whether or not to permit pupils to use the computer network and Internet access.

Specific conditions and services on the computer network and the Internet change from time to time and the Board makes no guaranties with respect to services and specifically assumes no responsibility for:

1. The content of any information or advice received by a pupil from a source outside of the school district or any costs that are incurred as a result of seeking or accepting such advice;
2. Any costs, liability or damages caused by pupil use of the computer network or the Internet;
3. Any consequences of service interruptions or changes whether or not they were under the control of school district staff; and/or;
4. The privacy of electronic mail.

By signing this agreement, all signatories agree that the Board shall not be held liable for the use of the computer network and the Internet and that all users will abide by the following terms:

1. Use of the computer network and the Internet shall be for educational purposes;
2. Use of the computer network and the Internet shall not be for illegal purposes of any kind;
3. The computer network and the Internet shall not be used to transmit threatening, obscene or harassing material in any form;
4. Pupils will not disrupt the computer network and the Internet services by any unauthorized personal action;
5. Pupils will not attempt to gain access to any computer sites or files for which they do not have authorization;
6. Pupils will not copy information in any form to which individuals or organizations hold copyright without specific written permission from those individuals or organizations;
7. Pupils will not engage in game playing on computer networks except when authorized to do so for educational purposes;
8. Pupils will print materials for educational purposes only to authorized printers; and/or;
9. Pupils will not engage in other activities that do not advance the educational purposes for which computer networks/computers are provided.

Individuals violating Board policy shall be subject to the consequences and other appropriate discipline, which includes but is not limited to:

1. Use of computer networks/computers only under direct supervision;
2. Suspension of computer/network privileges;

3. Revocation of computer/network privileges;
4. Suspension from school;
5. Expulsion from school; and/or;
6. Legal action and prosecution by authorities.

It is understood that employees of the Board may monitor pupil activity on the computer network and the Internet and that they may access files stored by pupils on district computers or a remote site accessed by district computers. It is further understood that the principal or superintendent may discontinue the computer network and the Internet access privileges and discipline any pupil who violates the terms of this agreement.



Parent/Student Acknowledgement

Board of Education Policy #6142.10 & Chromebook 1:1 Guidelines

We have reviewed and discussed the rules and regulations set by Mount Laurel Schools regarding the use of the Internet and Technology in our schools and the care and handling of Student Chromebook Computers.

Student's Name-

Student Signature - _____

Parent Signature - _____

Date - _____

Please return this signed page to your child's homeroom teacher as soon as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation.