

MEMO

To: JPS Board Of Education
From: Phil Rowley, Director of Information Technology
Christine Marcy, Director of Finance and Operations
Date: Monday March 2, 2026
Subject: Chromebook Purchase

SUMMARY

Each year, Jenison Public Schools sustains its commitment to a 1-to-1 device program by purchasing replacement Chromebooks for incoming freshmen. Devices have an approximate lifespan of five to seven years, and Google guarantees software updates for ten years. Devices from graduating seniors are filtered down to elementaries to replace ones that are no longer repairable or allowed. This expense is budgeted each year under the General Fund and is designated as "Technology Replacement". Remaining funds from this budget item are used to replace other devices throughout the district, such as staff computers and tablets.

EVALUATION

Annually in March, REMC releases a list of pre-negotiated computer pricing with preferred vendors. Unlike previous years, several models previously purchased by JPS have increased in price by as much as 60%. Demands for computer hardware are up sharply due to AI, tariffs and other industry factors. However, by attempting to solicit quotes early, combined with going to an 11" screen size from a 14" screen size, JPS could save significant costs and get ahead of the forecasted price spikes. We demoed both an HP and Dell solution in the 11" screen size. The Dell model seems to be most durable and has additionally been used for one year at JIA, with great success and very few repairs and issues. We obtained quotes from SEHI and People Driven Technology..

PURCHASE PROPOSAL

JPS intends to purchase 420 Chromebooks from People Driven Technology for a cost of \$113,621. This pricing is based on a CURRENT REMC agreement, which expires at the end of March 2026. Last year we spent \$130,320 for 400 devices in a 14" screen size. The incoming freshman class has approximately 370 students. Having extra devices will handle additional enrollment, weather upcoming price increases and have inventory to replace devices which can no longer be repaired. The Chromebooks include a standard 1-year warranty.