



To: Dr. Kent Mutchler  
From: Michael Wilkes  
Date: May 11, 2020  
Re: Leased Device Buyback Recommendation

The impact of COVID-19 on education, the economy, and daily life is unlike anything the World has seen for 100 years. On March 13<sup>th</sup>, the last day of school before the closure, the District sent students in grades 3-12 home with a 1:1 Windows laptop in order to support the upcoming remote learning environment. Students in K-2, however, work with shared devices in their classrooms as they use iPads or Windows laptops depending on their grade. Given the shared approach, the District's strategy to support these learners heavily relied on the use of personal technology. Students that lacked access to a personal device at home were provided with a school-issued laptop as they were identified in order to ensure they had access to remote learning.

The unfortunate reality of COVID-19 is that it is unknown exactly when we will return to typical work and school environments. Moreover, even if we returned to school for the start of next year, many experts believe that it is more likely than not that COVID-19 will return at some point next year. To that end, we could be faced with the same situation that we experienced this Spring. Should this happen again, it is our belief that we should be prepared to support our kindergarten through second grade students with individually issued school devices. Many factors have been considered ranging from technical support, acquisition costs, curricular needs, student and teacher experiences, and professional development. As a result, it is recommended to support this capability that we buyback (effectively buyout) the devices from HP Financial Services, the lessor, which are at the end of their 3-year lease. This would provide the District with approximately 855 devices to be repurposed and dedicated to remote learning support for K-2 students. In addition to these devices, the District would use devices returned by seniors to fill the gap to support 1:1.

If all things were considered equal, the District's current approach to K-2 is one that would remain as planned. The use of the devices being purchased as a result of this process are not meant to replace the current technology in use at these grade levels. Instead, it is meant for this equipment to only be used should we need to implement a remote learning environment during the 2020-21 school year.

The table below shows the total cost associated with this recommendation:

EQUIPMENT TO BUYBACK FROM LEASE	TOTAL COST OF BUYOUT
855 Leased HP ProBook X360 Devices	\$81,461,78 (total fair-market-value of the equipment)

This equipment is at the end of its original 3-year fair-market-value lease. The buyout amount is reflective of the market value of this equipment. Currently, these computers are in use in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

grades. Funding for this purchase will be sourced from the CARES Act that was established to assist those impacted by COVID-19.

Thank you for your consideration.