

## **1:1 Chromebooks in NFPS**

In NFPS, 1:1 computing is defined as every student in every class having a device to be used to access the internet, or digital textbooks and resources. This 1:1 concept allows the device to be used as a tool to enhance learning and is not meant to substitute the student - teacher interaction, or the experiences typical to a classroom such as paper and pencil, student discourse, and the use of manipulatives that are essential to learning.. It does not require the teacher to sign out a shared cart, or to physically bring a class to a computer lab and allows for spontaneity and flexibility. Devices, typically Chromebooks, are assigned to a student for the entirety of the school year. At different grade levels, the way these devices are incorporated into the instructional program varies.

Students at the MS and HS have been 1:1 for a number of years and during that time have brought their devices to and from school for the completion of assignments at home and to access electronic textbooks and other resources. At MHHS, classroom sets of Chromebooks have been collected over the last few years to allow for 1:1 in the grade level classrooms. Prior to COVID-19, students did not take these devices home. Teachers used them for assignments completed in the classroom only.

At Consolidated School just prior to COVID-19, classrooms in grades 1 and 2 were outfitted with 20 Chromebooks after years of building up to classroom sets. Kindergarten classes shared one cart of 20 devices, and with each classroom having five devices for writing and math stations. One Chromebook lab was maintained in the library for the purpose of STAR diagnostic testing as needed and Lexia for Kindergarten. The library also had a cart with older Chromebooks used during the special.

Carts across the district, notably from the MS, were disassembled during the start of the pandemic to provide a device to every ELC and Kindergarten student for remote learning, however these were all older devices. Classroom carts were disassembled from their classroom sets to provide to all grade 1 and 2 students. Every device that was available in any setting across the district was put into use at this time.

As we look toward next year, it is important to note that the devices that were in place at Consolidated prior to COVID-19 will not be suitable for administration of iReady due to the age and end of life status of the devices (they are no longer able to be updated). Those that are still operable at the end of remote learning will be able to run simple programs and be used for general typing. Touch screen devices were purchased in January for the Kindergarten class with the intention of them moving to grade 1 with them next year.

The initial recommended budget included the purchase of touch screen Chromebooks for the incoming Kindergarten class. This would ensure 1:1 touch screens with Kindergarten and grade 1 at Consolidated. Grade 2 would use existing non-touch older devices for the next year. This would allow for teachers to utilize iReady learning pathways, literacy programs such as RazKids and Lexia. With the proposed cut to the Kindergarten chromebooks now proposed, the existing devices will be reallocated to shared carts and a computer lab in the library for Consolidated. Instructionally, this means teachers will be required to sign out the carts/lab and will have a more limited use of the programs mentioned above. During periods of diagnostic testing, the carts/lab will likely not be accessible for other uses in order to accommodate the testing. Any further cuts will require the reallocation of these existing Chromebooks to other schools in the district to maintain instructional programming 3-12 and is not recommended at this time.