1:1 TECH PROGRAM
STUDENT CHROMEBOOKS
WASHINGTON LATIN

Latin will provide a Chromebook (think basic laptop) to each enrolled student for the 2020-21 school year.

This is often called a "one-to-one" or "1:1" technology program (1 computer for every student). These Chromebooks are the property of the school but will "live" with our students during both distance learning and when we are back on campus. Here we describe how we will get everyone a Chromebook and answer some questions.

Why a Chromebook for every student?

- **Equity** - We need to ensure that all our students have access to a basic level of technology, and providing the technology is the best way to ensure this.
- **Security** - It is easier to manage and secure student data using devices owned and managed by the school.
- **Maintenance** - The same platform makes it easier to conduct maintenance, updates, etc.
- Teachers can be more creative when they can rely on the same level of technology for all.
- **Assessment** - Having school devices makes it possible to administer assessments with a greater degree of control, even if we are operating remotely.

Is this a new policy?

This decision was made during the summer. Moving Washington Latin to a 1:1 technology program is not a new concept, but we are rolling it out more quickly than originally planned because of the pandemic. In the spring of 2020, we made sure that all Latin students had access to a device while learning from home. To be ready for this fall and the ongoing distance learning, we are working to get a Latin Chromebook to every student.

Does Latin have enough Chromebooks to do this now?

Latin currently owns 400 Chromebooks, including the 300 purchased in the spring. We ordered 350 more in July, which will bring us to 750 total - enough for every student with a few spares.

We do not know when the new shipment will arrive, however, because Chromebooks are in <u>very</u> high demand right now, especially for schools across the United States. We should know more about their arrival in the next few weeks. We are certain that we will not have the new devices in time for the start of school. We do have 250 of our 400 devices that need to be distributed to students for the start of school.

What if a student already has a computer at home?

It is fine to use another device. In fact, we welcome it right now, since we do not have enough Chromebooks yet. At some point for this school year, especially for assessments, we do want all our students to have access to the same kind of device and so we will distribute a Chromebook to each student.

When do students get these Chromebooks?

Because we do not have enough devices at this time, we will have to distribute devices in two waves, accommodating the students with the most need first, including:

- Students who received devices last spring (and returned them for maintenance)
- Students who qualify for free and reduced meals
- Students with an IEP or 504 plan
- Students entering the 5th grade

We will distribute the first wave of Chromebooks along with other materials *next week* on Tuesday 8/25 and Wednesday 8/26 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at Latin. **Please watch for an email from the Latin Tech Office with information about your child and when to expect a Chromebook.**

The second wave includes all remaining students and will happen as soon as we receive the devices. More information will follow about this distribution timing and details as soon as we have something to share with you.

What if my child is not in the Wave 1 priority group, but we need a Chromebook to start the school year?

We want to know that! Please email us at techsupport@latinpcs.org asap, so we can work to get your child a Chromebook.

And if my child IS in Wave 1 but we actually do not need a Chromebook to be able to start distance learning? Is it possible - and helpful - to defer until the Wave 2 distribution so that another family can get a device sooner?

YES! Please let us know as soon as possible, as we want to serve those in need first. Email techsupport@latinpcs.org.