

## 1:1 FAQs

- 1. What is the purpose of 1:1?** The district's vision is to prepare our students for college and careers. Most careers require an understanding of basic technology usage. Increasingly, college students are expected to utilize technology for classwork and homework, including the submitting of assignments. Providing students in grades 6-12 with early opportunities to participate in digital experiences will teach them the skills associated with using devices for educational and workforce purposes.
- 2. Why 1:1 devices instead of classroom sets of computers?** There are multiple reasons that 1:1 devices were chosen in place of classroom sets. Some of those reasons are bulleted below:
  - With classroom sets of devices, students must check-out a device as they enter a classroom and check-in the device when they leave that classroom. As a result, instructional time is lost for this process every time a student switches classes throughout the day.
  - Students are automatically logged into the school networks when their devices are turned on in a CMCSS building. This allows for tracking of student usage while in our schools. The time it takes for students to be logged-in to network servers is less when students are using the same device repeatedly.
  - It would actually have been more expensive to purchase classroom sets of computers than it was to purchase 1:1 devices. Each teacher would need to have the number of devices for their largest class size, meaning that smaller classes would have multiple devices not used during the day. Classroom sets of devices would also not be utilized while teachers were on planning periods, without students in their classrooms.
  - Feedback sessions were held with parents/guardians and students who piloted the use of 1:1 devices in high school academies. The response was overwhelmingly positive about the increased availability of devices for classroom use when students had individual access to computers.
- 3. Where did the money come from to purchase 1:1 devices?** When talking with teacher focus groups over the course of the last two years, many expressed frustration with the traditional textbook structure used for purchasing textbooks. Many also expressed that they did not actually use textbooks in their classrooms on a regular basis or that textbooks were not as up-to-date as the materials they could access online. As a result, money that has traditionally been spent on textbooks was reallocated to purchase technology and associated resources.
- 4. Why can't my child bring his/her own laptop to use during the school day?** Student safety is our first priority. For security purposes, using district devices allows the Technology Department to monitor student use of devices and implement systems and safeguards that will help to block inappropriate behavior while on school grounds, as

well as minimize the risk of computer viruses. Teachers have the ability to load unique software or assignments onto student devices through the Technology Department. Additionally, when all devices used by students are the same, teachers and support staff can be continuously trained in how to help students troubleshoot problems that arise from the use of the devices.

5. **What will be the expectations for use of laptops and homework? What if a student does not have WiFi at home and cannot complete the work?** Expectations for homework have not changed; the device can be used, but will not be required for the completion of homework assignments. WiFi accessibility will not be a necessary component of any required assignment.
6. **Why is the \$35 non-refundable if a student doesn't damage the laptop?** This is similar to an insurance plan. The \$35 covers the risk of loss or damage.
7. **What about theft?** Because theft is not covered in the protection plan, students should be intentional about where laptops are left both in school and outside of school. The Technology Department does have the ability to track the location of devices within the school, so students should immediately report missing devices to teachers, administrators, or the SRO to begin the tracking process. Devices stolen outside of the school should be reported to law enforcement officers and the police report should be shared with the school.
8. **What if a parent/guardian cannot afford the protection plan?** The protection plan is not required. However, those who opt out of the protection plan will be held financially responsible should something happen to the device.
9. **How do parents opt out of receiving a device for their students?** At the high school level, parents can opt for students to have take-home or check-in-check-out options on a daily basis. Middle school students will only have the check-in-check-out option, and will not take the laptops home. For students with extenuating circumstances at either level, parents/guardians should talk directly with school administrators about their concerns.
10. **How will students be monitored? How will we prevent cyberbullying from increasing?** All computers used on the CMCSS network are monitored for appropriate usage including content, sites, and keywords. In addition, access to open social media sites and known inappropriate sites is blocked through our district filters. Consequences for both use of devices and bullying are also addressed in the Student Code of Conduct.
11. **Are parents/guardians responsible for damage to student devices in middle schools?** Intentional damage is addressed by the Student Code of Conduct and may result in disciplinary action.

12. **How will students safely carry devices between classes in middle schools? Can they carry laptop bags or book bags?** The addition of online resources has minimized the need to carry traditional textbooks. Students are encouraged to purchase a padded sleeve for transportation of laptops between classes. Any padded sleeve is appropriate to fit a Lenovo ThinkPad with dimensions 11.81" x 8.27" x 0.88" inches.
13. **Will middle school students be able to access their work through a website in order to also work at home?** Students will work with a variety of resources both digital and traditional. If students have access to a device at home, they can access digital resources through the internet. However, homework assignments will not require the use of computers or the internet.
14. **How will the technology stay updated?** The Technology Department can push updates out to student computers as needed through the CMCSS network. Students will be required to turn in laptops at the end of every school year for updates. With the terms of the district's technology lease, devices are replaced every five years.
15. **What is the size and type of laptop?** Lenovo ThinkPads, 11.81" x 8.27" x 0.88" inches