

Digital Conversion Q&A

We held an informational meeting for parents on August 17, 2017. We appreciate the questions and also appreciate everyone's patience and flexibility with this new initiative.

Digital Conversion Website with information:

http://www.asd103.org/departments_and_programs/digital_conversion

Parent permission forms will be turned in at open houses at AMS, and Seahawk Start Up at AHS.

AMS - laptops will be handed out during first week of school, with lessons in classrooms.

AHS - during advisory students will learn more about digital citizenship

Computers do have filters to block inappropriate sites. Our Tech department monitors possible inappropriate use, including searches on inappropriate or dangerous terms. There is no expectation of privacy with district laptops.

Students will learn how to do basic troubleshooting on their own. If they can't fix something, there will be a designated spot in the schools to take their computer to get looked at.

In case of damage - students will receive a loaner to continue learning. Costs align with other districts across the state and nation.

Accidental:

Self-insurance pool - \$30 fee for laptop, with \$100 deductible.

Gross negligence - cost of the repair or replacement. School administrators determine gross negligence.

What if my laptop is stolen?

Report to the police and the school right away. Students will be issued a loaner. The laptops do have tracking devices installed.

Is \$30 one time or every year?

Likely every year.

Does my child get the same laptop every year?

Maybe; that is our goal but we aren't sure yet.

What about summer school?

Not sure yet; likely yes, if they are enrolled in an ASD summer program.

My child plays sports - where do they store the laptops?

Principals will provide safe locations for laptop storage; likely in their lockers.

Will students still have the same number of textbooks to lug back and forth?

AHS - probably yes; AMS students don't take textbooks home. Some curriculum is online, and we are working to get more.

Each laptop comes with a protective sleeve. This protective sleeve will not have the barcode on it; it will be on the laptop.

Is every student required to have a device?

Yes. It will be a key tool used in classrooms.

What if another student damages my child's device?

That will be sorted out by principals with appropriate discipline

Hard drive space?

Will need to assess as we go.

What Anti-virus, malware is used?

Windows Defender

How does filtering work outside of school?

Filtering does work outside of school – iBoss cyber security is the software used.

Can we buy extra batteries?

Yes, they are available at the school for purchase, along with extra power cords, stylus and cases.

If your child attends: CTE, Running Start, etc, they will still be issued a district device.

My child wants to use his own device.

We want everyone to use the same devices for a variety of benefits. Please see the handbook. For example, if all students are on the same device, it will help teachers manage this new tool.

Is the network prepared?

We have done a lot of work to review and update our system over the last few years. We use outside experts to help us.

Security & version updates?

Will also be determined as a system to make updates routine, and non-disruptive.

Policy doesn't say anything about the amount of time spent on the laptops.

Correct; that will depend on the curriculum.

What will we do to minimize "screen time"?

Younger students are not spending hours and hours on screens; for secondary students it will depend on your child's course work.

How do they get appropriate educational programs loaded?

Plan is to be determined, as needed.

What about non-digital communication learning?

Need to continue to educate and incorporate appropriate interaction among students.

What if the district and parents agree that child is not responsible enough to take a laptop home?

If that determination is made, those students will be able to check in and out a laptop each day.

Can a laptop travel with you if you go on a trip?

Yes. Just like other school textbooks, calculators, etc, students can travel with their devices.