

Student Chromebook Deployment Update

Beginning September 2023

Beginning this school year (2023-24), 5th grade students and High School Freshmen, will be issued a school device and will carry that unit through four grades (5th grade through 8th grade, and 9th through 12th respectively), eliminating the need for annual returns at each grade level. This new policy aims to streamline the process and provide enhanced continuity and familiarity with the devices for our students, as well as instill a sense of responsibility for their District-issued educational equipment. Grades 4 and below will still leave their devices in class, unless directed by their instructor to take them home for special assignments.

Key Points:

1. Chromebook Issuance: Each student will be assigned a new Chromebook at a few instances during their academic journey with the Public Schools of Northborough and Southborough. This device will be their responsibility throughout their four year period with it in our schools. It is crucial to emphasize the importance of taking care of these devices and treating them as valuable educational tools.
2. Device Return: Instead of collecting Chromebooks at the end of each school year, students will be required to return their devices only at the end of the year prior to being promoted to the next deployment grade level. For example, if a student is entering ninth grade, they will need to return their Chromebook at the end of eighth grade.
3. Maintenance and Repairs: To ensure the longevity and optimal performance of the Chromebooks, we will continue to provide technical support, maintenance, and repairs throughout the students' four-year cycle. Please remind students to report any issues with their devices promptly so that our IT team can assist them accordingly. A new, Student [Chromebook Physical Issue Support](#) form will be available for parents or students to help troubleshoot common issues.
4. Transitioning Students: In cases where students leave our school district before completing their four-year cycle, they will be required to return their Chromebooks upon withdrawal. These devices will then be prepared for reassignment to incoming students.
5. Student Accountability: It is essential to communicate to students the importance of responsible use and care of their Chromebooks. Encourage them to use protective cases, avoid food or drink near the devices, and keep them in a safe place when not in use. Remind students to charge their Chromebooks regularly to ensure they have sufficient battery life for their academic activities.
6. Parental Involvement: We kindly request your support in sharing this information with parents and guardians. It is crucial for them to understand the new deployment cycle and their role in overseeing their child's Chromebook usage and care. Encourage them to

review the device guidelines and discuss the responsibilities associated with the long-term possession of the school-issued device.

7. Insurance for Student Device: Later this summer you will receive a communication from the District outlining the options for insuring a student device. Please note that the District will not be managing an insurance policy for this purpose, but the District will encourage families to purchase insurance on their school issued student device. Please note that the school district does not endorse or recommend any particular provider. We encourage you to review any policies and coverage options before selecting any insurance provider to ensure it meets your needs and budget.

Please feel free to reach out to our IT department or myself if you have any questions or concerns regarding this new deployment cycle. We appreciate your cooperation and support in ensuring a smooth transition and successful implementation of this policy.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to another productive year with our students and their Chromebooks.