



Annual Chromebook Fee - FAQ

Every District 99 student receives a Chromebook that they use both in school and at home. 1:1 Learning, which equips every “one” student with “one” computing device, increases each student’s ability to be collaborative, reflective and empowered.

What is a Chromebook? Why did we pick this device?

A Chromebook is like a laptop but is less expensive, lighter and faster. It starts up in less than ten seconds, connects to internet-based resources quickly, and provides six to eight hours of battery life.

How are the Chromebook devices being funded?

The district is purchasing the devices. The addition of a \$95 annual student 1:1 device fee from each student will help offset a portion of the cost.

If a family is low income, will the student be receiving a discount for the Chromebooks?

Yes, students on fee waivers will receive a Chromebook on loan at no cost. The device remains the property of the district when the student leaves or when they graduate.

Can families opt out of a Chromebook?

No. All students will be required to use a district-issued Chromebook for their academic studies. These devices will be integral to classroom instruction. Without a device, students will be unable to fully participate in classroom activities and assignments.

Will 1:1 Learning eliminate textbooks and/or associated costs?

While many institutions speculate that 1:1 Learning and the use of individual student devices will lower the cost of textbooks by providing electronic versions, District 99 cannot promise immediate cost savings by the integration of Chromebooks. The publishing industry, availability, and cost of electronic textbooks are not under our control; we cannot predict the long term impact of 1:1 Learning on costs.

What happens if the device is lost, damaged, or stolen?

The annual student 1:1 device fee covers the district provided insurance. A sliding deductible will apply to necessary repairs. Total loss of the device will not be covered under insurance; replacement costs are the responsibility of the student/family. (See Chromebook Agreement for details.) Spare devices will be available as loaners should a student’s Chromebook be temporarily out of commission.

We already own a mobile device for our student. Can he/she use their personal device instead of the District 99 Chromebook?

No. We understand that many of our students already have laptops or other devices at home. Chromebooks will be a key instructional tool for our students, just like a textbook or a calculator. Just as we require all students to purchase the same textbook for a course, the same principle applies for a 1:1 Learning device. Use of a standard District 99 issued device will allow us to monitor student use at school, manage the devices effectively and push out applications that students will use for course work.