

Important Dates

Informational Meeting

High School Auditorium
September 20, 2016

Mandatory Parent Trainings

High School Auditorium

November 1 - 6:30 PM
November 10 - 8:30 AM & 6:30 PM
November 15 - 6:30 PM
November 17 - 6:30 PM
November 22 - 8:30 AM & 6:30 PM

Parent Trainings Are Mandatory
No Training = No Computer

Technology Committee

Alaina Ellison, Chair
Ryle Kiser
Brian Thompson
Jeanene Byerly
Michelle Clark
Doug Moeckel
Erik Cliff - CBD
Matt Collins - JCISD
Aaron Moeckel - IT

Courtney Byers
Danielle Doctor
Kim Gorman
Kristen Kimble
Sarah Sherwood
Andria Althoen
Abby Briggs
Tim Waskiewicz

1:1 Technology Initiative

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*Individual Excellence Inspired by
Tradition and Innovation*

1:1 Technology Initiative Information

Overview

Grass Lake Community Schools is very fortunate to have been awarded a 1.89 million dollar grant for technology from Robert and Ellen Thompson.

Along with devices for each student, the grant has allowed district wide infrastructure upgrades as well as professional development for staff members.

We plan to start distributing devices in January, 2017. Each student's device will be assigned to them for the entire school year.

- Kindergartners and 1st Graders will receive Apple iPads. Initially, these devices will remain on the school premises.
- 2nd through 8th graders will receive 11" Dell Durable Chromebooks. Depending on grade levels, students will be allowed to carry these devices between home and school.
- 9th through 12th graders will receive 14" Hewlett Packard Durable Chromebooks. These students will also be allowed to carry these devices between home and school.

As a result of the one-to-one initiative, there will be a shift in how instruction will be delivered to the students and in the manner in which students will learn. Please keep in mind these devices are just a great new tool to be used to enhance the instruction in the classroom through the use of new teaching strategies and student collaboration.

With the implementation of this program, research indicates the positive impact will reveal itself through:

- Improved student academic achievement
- Students using the internet and computer media to communicate and work together on assignments and projects
- Improving the use of critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, and solve problems.
- Our students' better understanding of the legal and ethical behavior related to technology.
- Targeted instruction to better meet the learning style of the students

Schoology

As part of our transition to new instruction delivery methods with our 1:1 computer initiative we will be employing a "learning management system" (LMS) called Schoology. Schoology will serve multiple purposes that will be utilized by students, teachers, and parents, including learning resource storage, homework database for accessing assignments and turning in homework, communication links between school and home, and all the tools we will need to create engaging content, design lessons, and assess student understanding.

Filtering System

As we move toward the implementation of our 1:1 computer initiative we are making plans to allow for students in selected grades to have the opportunity to take their devices home to do homework, work on projects, communicate with teachers and students, and access information databases. With this comes the responsibility to block certain web-based materials and sites. Our team is developing an Internet filtering system that will satisfy this requirement whether the student is in one of our school buildings, or off site at home or any other facility with Internet access.

Teacher Training

With the 1:1 computer initiative not only will our students be learning a new way of accessing knowledge, but our teachers will be learning as well. As part of the grant we are contracted with Communications by Design (CBD) in Ada, Michigan, to receive instruction toward the best use of our new technologies. To this date all of our teachers and administrators have received a minimum of two days of instruction from CBD that has led us to create lessons, store valuable instructional resources, learn to communicate with each other more effectively through electronics, and fully utilize the capabilities this initiative offers. CBD will also be providing an on site trainer to support our teachers, and our school district has hired a Grass Lake teacher to also support our implementation efforts. We feel that the tools for teaching and learning are in place for a successful rollout in January.

Parent Training

Along with teacher training, it is also very important that we bring our students' parents into the mix by providing them with the knowledge to use our learning management system (Schoology). These trainings will be offered at different days and times to accommodate all of our families as they will have mandatory attendance requirements.

To learn more about digital citizenship, please visit the following website:

<https://www.common SenseMedia.org/educators/connecting-families/share>

Definition of one-to-one technology (1:1 technology)
- Refers to one computer device for every student.