# Coupeville High School

*High levels of learning for all students*

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Dear Parents and Guardians

 For the past several years we have been incorporating Chromebooks into our classrooms in the Middle and High School.  This has been very beneficial and productive for our students.   Currently most of our teachers have a class set of Chromebooks; however, we feel it necessary to have Chromebooks in the hands of the students after school and at home for our high school students.  We believe that an Internet connected device will be a required resource for our students as they enroll in college and or enter the professional arena. With this belief in mind, the District believes that students should learn how to effectively manage a device.  We will be initiating a 1:1 Chromebook Rollout for the high school.  Students will have access to a chromebook during school and be able to take it home.  Included in this mailing will be a Chromebook Resource Guide and also a Loan Agreement for your student.  In the guide there are guidelines and expectations of Chromebook use at school and off campus.  The Loan Agreement will need to be signed and returned to us before your student receives a Chromebook.

## Why Chromebooks?

A Chromebook is a mobile device/laptop that is web based.  It is a web based device so there is no need for downloading or installing software and/or updates.The Chromebook needs little, if any maintenance. The way a Chromebook operates reduces the need for technical support. Student work on the Chromebook automatically saves to the cloud and in particular the Google cloud.  It is cost-effective and starts up quickly.  The minimum battery life is 6.5 hours and since we have Google accounts the Chromebook allows access at any time.

## Who owns these Chromebooks—the students or the school? What happens if my child breaks or loses his or her Chromebook?

Chromebooks that are issued as part of the 1:1 program are the property of the Coupeville School District; each high school student will be issued a Chromebook by the school district and will have access to that device 24/7. Students will have to adhere to Coupeville School District policies governing the use of technology. This also includes potential damage. Students are responsible for the Chromebook's general care and content accessed through the device.

## Who is responsible for updating the device (software and applications)?

The Chromebook operating system, Chrome OS, updates itself automatically. Students do not need to manually update their Chromebooks. Chromebooks use the principle of "defense in depth" to provide multiple layers of protection against viruses and malware, including data encryption and verified boot. By logging in with their school email account Chromebooks seamlessly integrate with the Google Apps for Education suite of productivity and collaboration tools. This suite includes Google Docs (word processing), Spreadsheets, Presentations, Drawings, and Forms.

## As a parent, what kinds of limits should I set on my child's "screen time"? How does the Chromebook affect my rules at home?

We hope that our 1:1 Chromebook program will help students learn and maintain good digital habits that will last a lifetime. Any rules that you have about computer use or Internet access should apply equally to your child's Chromebook use. However, please keep in mind that more class content will be accessable via the Chromebook. This may require students to extend their screen time to meet course requirements.

**Will there be Internet filters on the Chromebooks? How will these works when my child has to do research for projects or assignments on the Internet at home?**

The Chromebooks will have the same filtering system as they have while they are at our school. The content is monitored through each Coupeville Student Account. Students can only access the Chromebook with their student account.

## 1:1 Computing: What the Research Says

A review of seven long-term research studies examining the educational outcomes of 1:1 computing revealed six statistically significant educational benefits, provided that schools met two criteria: teachers were adequately trained, and a strong level of support for the "transformational vision of 1:1 computing" existed among key central office and building level administrators. Here are the six findings.

1. Students in a 1:1 environment consistently outperformed non-laptop students in all subject areas on standardized state assessment tests. The significant differences on academic measure were most pronounced in the area of English Language Arts assessments. *(Suhr, K.A. et al, Journal of Technology, Learning, and Assessment, 9 (5), 2010)*

2. Laptops are not just technological tools; rather they are cognitive tools that are integrated into the teaching and learning of a school. The "paradigm shift" resulting from 1:1 computing fostered more higher-order reasoning and critical analysis skills among students and greater teacher-student collaboration around instructional tasks. *(Weston, M.E. & Bain, A., Journal of Technology, Learning, and Assessment, 9(6), 2010)*

3. Teacher practices generally changed to accommodate the opportunities of increased technology access in a 1:1 computer setting, leading to more problem-based or project-based learning activities; but the change takes time-up to two years, typically. *(Shapley, K.S. et al, Journal of Technology, Learning, and Assessment, 9(4), 2010)*

4. Teachers report students are "more engaged learners" as a result of 1:1 implementation and enjoy using multimedia applications, searching the Internet for instructional purposes, writing papers, and preparing presentations. *(Babell, D., & Kay, R., Journal of Technology; Learning, and Assessment, 9(2), 2010; Project RED Key Findings, ISTE Presentation, 2010)*

5. The "implementation strength" of student access and use of technology was consistently found to be a positive predictor of student reading and math scores on academic achievement tests. *(Shapley, K.S. et al, Journal of Technology, Learning, and Assessment, 9(4), 2010)*

6. Students graduating from 1:1 high schools outperformed non-laptop students in terms of 21st-century skills needed to be successful in the workplace and post-secondary educational opportunities. *(Lemke, C. & Martin, C., One-to-One Computing in Maine: A State Profile, 2003; Partnership for 21st Century Skills and Citizen Schools, 2006)*