

Universal and Sustainable: Chromebooks in Shelby County Schools

Rationale:

In Shelby County Schools, we embrace the role of technology in student learning and believe that it has the power to enhance and amplify instruction. Toward that end, our district has made a substantial commitment to provide all students with universal, sustainable, 1:1 access to instructional technology. Our effort rests on one critical premise: access to meaningful digital tools and platforms has great potential for our students, but no instructional good can occur absent a gifted, dedicated classroom teacher. The integration with and infusion of technology into quality instruction represents our best path to greater achievement for all the students we serve.

Implementation:

- Shelby County Schools has secured enough Chromebooks to function in at least a 1:1 student-to-device ratio.
- The devices will be managed by Shelby County Schools, and students are expected to abide by our Acceptable Use Policy located in our district code of conduct, along with the Student Chromebook Handbook and User Agreement.
- Shelby County Schools has provided administration and teachers with a Chromebook.
- In grades K-3, students will have regular access to Chromebooks for use at school. Students in grades 4-12 will be issued Chromebooks that they may take home. (K - 3 students may be given temporary at-home access to Chromebooks as deemed appropriate at the local school.)
- Students and teachers will both receive training in the effective, responsible use of these devices as well as various instructional applications to foster and support greater achievement.
- Devices will be managed in AssetTiger and collected at the end of the school year.

Desired Outcomes for Students:

- Students will make use of instructional technology to become more empowered, self-aware learners who can articulate their goals and make choices about their learning.
- Students will become more responsible digital citizens and learn how to leave a positive digital footprint in an increasingly connected world.
- Students will apply instructional technology to improve their ability to communicate and collaborate meaningfully with others.
- Students will use instructional technology to find creative, innovative solutions to the challenges they face both in and outside the classroom.
- Students will employ instructional technology to sharpen and hone critical academic skills necessary for success in all areas of learning and inquiry.

Desired Outcomes for Teachers:

- Teachers will make use of instructional technology to explore and implement best instructional practices in the technology-infused classroom.
- Teachers will model and promote the appropriate use of instructional technology so that students are inspired to contribute positively to a digital environment.
- Teachers will use instructional technology to collaborate with colleagues to design meaningful learning experiences for all students.
- Teachers will facilitate learning with instructional technology in order to challenge students in ways that nurture innovation and problem solving.
- Teachers will utilize instructional technology to analyze and use various data points to foster greater student achievement.