



MIDDLE SCHOOL CHROMEBOOK FAMILY INFORMATION SESSION

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10 June 2020

AGENDA



- How did we get here?
- Details on new Chromebook “rental” program
- Details on expanded Chromebook management
- Next Steps
- Questions

EFFORTS TO DATE



Fall 2017

BYOD Middle School Pilot Launched

Winter 2019

Middle School staff express concerns about lack of standards for MS devices. IT concerned about MCAS

Spring 2019

SC standardizes on Chromebooks for all rising 6th graders

SC authorizes voluntary pilot allowing IT management of BYOD devices

Spring 2020

Chromebooks required for 6th/7th graders. SC adds device rental option

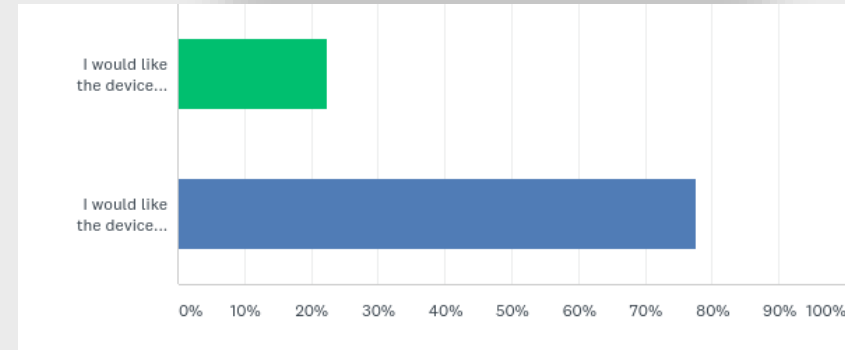
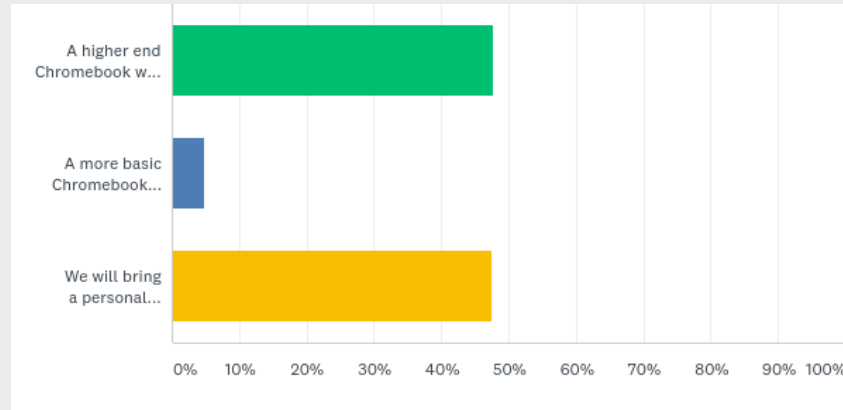
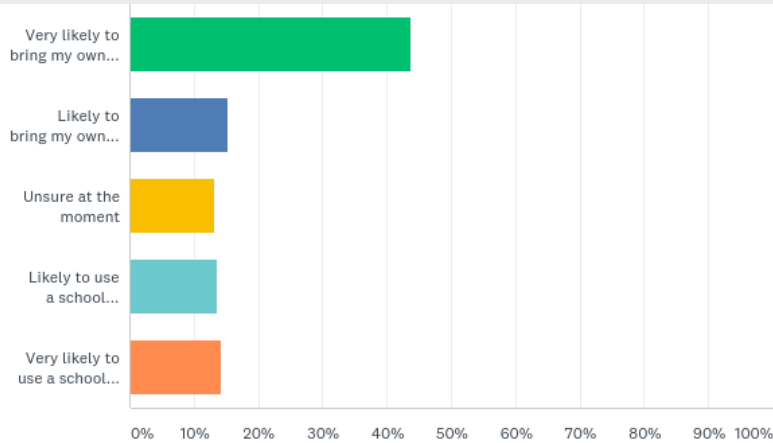
SC expands management program to all grades and is now required

WHY ARE WE ENHANCING THE PROGRAM?



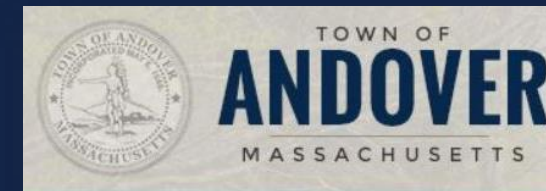
- Parent concerns
 - Initial cost to acquire device
 - Challenges to configure and maintain device
 - No technical support
 - Additional costs for repair and accidental damage
 - “Hassle”
- Student concerns
 - No in school resource to support them
 - Cannot use personal devices to take MCAS or other standardized tests
- Fiscal concerns
 - Need to maintain a “testing fleet” of roughly 600 machines (\$250,000 worth of equipment)
 - From February to May 50-60% of IT time is spent cleaning and shuttling machines between schools
- Middle School Staff concerns
 - Multiple device types are difficult to configure and troubleshoot
 - IT staff are not allowed to troubleshoot BYOD devices; Digital Learning feels troubleshooting devices compromises their core mission
 - Students can download unauthorized “apps”
 - Cannot use classroom management software to control student activity in the classroom
 - Must set curriculum standard to the capabilities of the least capable device
 - Making all devices standard ensures equality
 - In general, middle school students are still early in their development and need a more structured, controlled experience

FAMILY SURVEY RESULTS



- 509 total respondents. Roughly 40% response rate
- 27.7% overall showed some interest in the “rental” program (415 potential devices)
- 43.5% of rising 6th grade families showed interest (217 potential devices)
- Families strongly preferred a full featured device compared to an “economy” device
- Families strongly preferred to allow devices to be unmanaged while not at school

RENTAL PROGRAM DETAILS

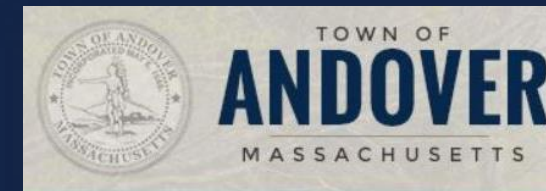


- **Who is eligible?**
 - All rising 6th graders plus existing middle school students
- **Is this mandatory? Can I still bring my own device?**
 - You may still bring a personal device. Personal Chromebooks must be “managed” by IT beginning in 2020-21. 8th graders may still bring Windows or MacOS devices
- **What type of device will I get? Can I choose?**
 - The current Andover standard device is the HP Chromebook x360 EE 11 inch. (<https://www8.hp.com/h20195/v2/GetPDF.aspx/4AA7-6546ENUC.pdf>) It is a hybrid laptop/clamshell device with touchscreen and video conferencing capabilities
- **Do I own the device? Do I get to keep the device when my child graduates from middle school?**
 - These devices are the property of the Town. These devices are “rented” to you on an annual basis. Families do not “own” it at the end
- **Who will fix it if it breaks?**
 - Rental devices will be repaired by AndoverIT. Loaners provided as needed. BYOD devices are the family responsibility
- **What happens if I drop it or lose it?**
 - Accidental damage resulting from a drop, liquid spill, school accident or other unintended event will be covered. You are covered for damage up to the price of the device (roughly \$350). This will cover a full loss or two damaged screens. Subsequent events will result in a family surcharge.
- **Do I get to use it at home? Can I keep it during the summer?**
 - Yes. Devices go home on weekends and during vacation. The rental period is July 1st to June 30th
- **Can I use my device for anything other than school approved apps?**
 - From roughly 7:30 in the morning until 2:30 in the afternoon your device is in “managed mode”. All other hours it is unmanaged.
- **What happens during MCAS and similar standardized test?**
 - “Rental” users will use a familiar device for testing. BYOD students will be given a school owned device for the test period
- **What will it cost?**
 - \$130 per student for 2020-21
- **What happens if I can’t afford to rent a device?**
 - Andover provides scholarship devices for families with limited economic needs.
- **How do I order?**
 - We will accept orders and requests for scholarships from Monday June 15th through Friday June 26th. Your payment will be processed through the same “E-Funds for Schools” portal that you use to pay sports, music and similar fees.
 - <https://aps1.net/chromebooks>
- **When will I receive my device?**
 - We will place the order in July. Normally orders are ready in 4-6 weeks but all PC manufacturers are experiencing supply chain delays

QUESTIONS?



MANAGEMENT DETAILS



■ **What does “management” mean?**

- When managed the device can only be used with your student’s school account. Schools control all device settings and restrict applications. While in school, all content is controlled.
- While managed we can “see” your student’s screen but we can never access the camera. Neither IT nor teaching staff will routinely view your students screen

■ **How does this protect my child?**

- During school hours your child is restricted to using school approved applications. While on the school network you are not permitted to visit inappropriate sites or download inappropriate content. Visits to all sites are logged and all emails sent and received via your school account are archived. We comply with all state and federal regulations including CIPA, COPPA and FIRPA. We may also be able to view your student’s screen during class and we can redirect your student to a particular website to facilitate class participation. The use of a school supplied device greatly enhances our ability to ensure a safe and productive school day experience.

■ **Is the device managed all the time?**

- The device is managed only during school hours, It is unmanaged after 2:30pm, weekends, vacations and during the summer
- In unmanaged mode, families may choose to add secondary accounts. Students may change the configurations and download extensions while using those secondary accounts. When at home families are responsible for monitoring internet content

■ **What information does Google know?**

- As part of enrolling your students in Gsuite Google knows the name of each student with an active account
- Google is also aware of what web sites are visited while a student uses their school account
- However, placing the device under management does not provide Google with any additional information or access to your students device

■ **How do I place this under management?**

- Families can place the device under management before the start of school. Directions are at <https://aps1.net/chromebooks>
- If families choose, IT will assist with placing devices under management. By October 1st all devices must be enrolled

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