



# Oologah-Talala Public Schools

*Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)*

## **Frequently Asked Questions about OTPS Personalized Learning Environment**

### [Why is OTPS implementing laptops and digital content?](#)

OTPS believes in preparing students to be digitally literate with strong critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Using a Learning Management System as our curriculum guide, students will be able to develop these skills in the classroom and practice those skills in the home. Students will be able to take their laptops home, which strengthens the school-home connection.

### [What is a Learning Management System \(LMS\)?](#)

A Learning Management System (LMS) is a software application for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting and delivery of educational courses.

### [What LMS System is OTPS using?](#)

For the 17-18 school year, we are running a pilot of personalized learning in the High School with four teachers. In the Middle School, personalized learning is blended into all students' schedules because it is not for course completion. At both secondary sites teachers will have options as to what LMS they feel comfortable using during this pilot year. Throughout the year we will monitor and learn from the various learning management systems with the intentions on choosing one LMS after the pilot year that works best for our students and teachers.

### [Will the use of an LMS eliminate projects, paper/pencil assignments, etc?](#)

No. OTPS believes in well balanced approach to education. This style of blended learning will incorporate all learning approaches. Using the laptop and digital content will enhance the educational experience to your child, not be the only source of learning.

### [How will the Personalized Learning environment effect the GPA?](#)

It will look the same as a regular class. Our goal is not to change anything with GPA but to meet all kids exactly where they are academically and continue to challenge them so that they are prepared for life after High School.

### [Is it mandatory to go into Summer School in this environment?](#)

No. The student can/will pick up right where they left off when the next semester starts.

### [Does this Personalized Learning environment restrict elective choices?](#)

No, it actually may help the student to have more flexibility in their schedule to take different electives and possibly concurrent or career tech classes.

### [Is the Personalized Learning environment geared towards any specific learning style?](#)

No, it is simply the teachers & students using technology as a tool to meet kids where they are academically and continuously push them to learn. With the assistance of technology we can diagnostically indicate where students are struggling and give them the assistance they need to learn and grow. This environment could work for all students.

### [How will using the laptops and an LMS impact students with special needs?](#)



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Students with special needs will benefit from having a laptop. Based on their unique learning needs, devices may be equipped or modified to include adaptive software and programs. The district is working closely with the Special Education Department to ensure all students with special needs are appropriately accommodated.

### [How did the school fund the purchase of laptops? Which students are participating?](#)

The OTPS district has been gifted laptops for every students in grades 6-12 from the Ghost Hollow Foundation.

## **Frequently Asked Questions about Laptop Responsibility (FAQ)**

### [Are there fees associated with the program?](#)

Each student is required to pay an annual, non-refundable \$40 or \$25(based on free/reduced lunch application) security deposit fee to receive a laptop.

### [Who is responsible for loss, theft or damage while the student's laptop is away from school?](#)

Similar to any other instructional material, the student is responsible for the laptop. It is the responsibility of the student to report damages immediately.

### [What incidents \(resulting in damage to the school laptop\) are covered under the OTPS Technology Usage Fee?](#)

- Hardware failures that may occur during normal use of the laptop (e.g. hard drive crash, keys coming off keyboard, power supply failure, etc.)
- Theft of the laptop even when adequate security measures have been taken (theft claim must be supported by an official report.....)

### [What incidents \(resulting in damage to the school laptop\) are NOT COVERED under the OTPS Technology Usage Fee?](#)

- Damaged caused as a result of horseplay in the vicinity of the laptop
- Damage caused by the spilling of liquid on the laptop
- Damage caused by closing the LCD monitor on an object (e.g. pen, pencil, calculator, paper clip, etc.)
- Damage caused by intentional destruction to the laptop
- Missing or lost laptop

### [What should be done if the laptop gets damaged or stolen at school or home?](#)

Please report any kind of damage to your teacher or to the building office as soon as possible. If your laptop is unsafe or unusable as a result of the damage, you will be able to borrow another district laptop until the necessary repairs are made to your assigned laptop. Students will be required to complete an "Incident Report Form" for each incident (forms may be obtained from the building office). Failure to report damages will result in financial liability for the student.

## **Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) about Student Responsibility**

### [Does my child have to bring the laptop home if there is already a device at home?](#)



# Oologah-Talala Public Schools

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All students are able to use their laptop at school and at home during the week and on weekends. There will be a check out procedure if parents agree to allow the laptops to be taken home. The Technology Use Fee remains the same whether you leave the laptop at school or check it out in your child's name for the year.

### [What is the consequence for a student improperly using the laptop/school network?](#)

It is important for students to learn responsibility in caring for the laptop and using the school network. Improper use of technology will result in consequences. We ask that parents help us to have conversations with our students about the proper educational use of their school issued device.

### [What if my child moves to another school district during the year?](#)

Each laptop is the property of OTPS. If a student moves during the school year, the student will need to return the device to the school site. All laptops are returned to the school site at the end of each school year.

## **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Related to Technology?**

### [How are students protected from inappropriate content?](#)

Each device is pre-loaded with district-approved filtering software. Inappropriate websites will be blocked using filters installed on every device by the district. Students should follow our expectations and report any accidental inappropriate material to their teacher or administrator.

### [How long does the laptop battery last? What if a student's laptop battery runs out during the day?](#)

Students are advised to plug in their laptop every evening at home to ensure that it is fully charged each day. When students are not using the device during the day, they will power down the device to conserve its battery life. Classrooms are equipped with outlets for recharging as needed.

### [Does a student need to have a printer to print out assignments?](#)

Printers are not necessary. The LMS provides electronic submission of assignments.

### [How are students protected from inappropriate content?](#)

Each device is pre-loaded with district-approved filtering software. Inappropriate websites will be blocked using filters installed on every device by the district.

### [What if a student doesn't have access to the Internet at home?](#)

OTPS recognizes that students may not have access to the Internet at home. Students will have enough time throughout the school day(s) to complete assignments.