



School Board Meeting

June 9, 2020

unlimited possibilities



unlimited possibilities



PURPOSE STATEMENT

Ridgefield School District aspires to be the state's premier district, leveraging strong community partnerships to provide each student personalized learning experiences, opportunities, and skills that ensure success and unlimited possibilities.

QUALITY INSTRUCTION

We ensure research-based instructional practices are implemented in every classroom utilizing access to professional growth and collaboration opportunities to reflect on and improve our practices.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

We deliver a premier educational program dedicated to developing the whole child. We provide students with personalized academic and extracurricular opportunities while increasing student learning.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

We strive to provide safe, well-maintained facilities with 21st century learning environments in which all students can succeed. We will maximize the availability of our facilities to support community use.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

We create educational partnerships to promote collaboration, improve communication and provide programs for greater learning opportunities.



unlimited possibilities





Coronavirus Update

June 9, 2020

unlimited possibilities



2020 - 2021 1:1 Chromebook Take-Home Plan

unlimited possibilities



Review of Chromebook Usage in Ridgefield School District

- February, 2014- The district deploys its first Chromebooks in carts. The initial deployment was 530 devices in 17 carts in grades 6-12.
- August, 2014- An additional 764 Chromebooks and 28 carts were deployed in grades 3-5 and 7-8.
- August 2015- 128 Chromebooks in 4 carts were added for RHS Social Studies as part of curriculum adoption
160 Chromebooks added for growth
- 42 for VRMS STEM
- August 2016- 792 with carts added for growth, VRMS STEM, RHS math adoption and RHS core classrooms
- 2017-Present – Added approximately 1,000 devices per year for replacement and growth.
- March 2020 - Early purchase of 1,000 Chromebooks for replacements and growth. This offered significant savings (over \$65,000) by taking advantage of a special purchase opportunity.
- Over \$1 million spent on Chromebooks and carts over the past four years



Response to COVID-19 School Closure

- Early surplus of over 700 Chromebooks
- Distributed to families in need - These are now owned by recipients who expressed the need for devices.
- Loaner program to provide additional devices needed by students.
- Deployment of Wi -Fi hotspots to staff that don't have any or adequate Internet access at home.
- Deployment of Wi -Fi hotspots on buses to provide Internet access to families who don't have it at home.
- New Help Desk for students and parents to report issues to the Technology Department.



1:1 TakeHome Chromebook Program

- 1:1 Chromebooks for students investigated in the past, most recently in 2016
- Would have required new devices for about \$200,000 at that time
- High school level – it was decided not to proceed
- Other grade levels were not considered due to high school decision
- In 2020 the decision is being made for educational reasons as well as financial reasons



2020 - 2021 1:1 Chromebook Distribution Plan

Cart-Based Chromebook Plan	Take-Home Chromebook Plan
PRO	PRO
Devices are always available to students at school	Devices are always available to students anywhere
Less anticipated breakage	Promotes responsibility and ownership
Easier inventory control	Mitigates issues of multiple users handling devices
Easy to move resources around the district as needed	Eliminates carts from classrooms saving space
	Drastically reduces the number of Chromebooks needed
CON	CON
Expensive to sustain with district growth	More anticipated breakage
Requires far more than one device per student	More challenging replacement management
Students may not have access for schoolwork at home	Students may not arrive to school with device or charged device



2020 - 2021 1:1 Chromebook Distribution Plan

- Implement 1:1 Chromebook take-home project for grades 3 - 12. Grades K2 to move up to 1:1 but remain cart-based.
- Four models purchased in consecutive years to fill the role.
- Two four - year blocks of devices
 - 5-8 and 9-12
 - Oldest devices to newest devices from 12-9 and 8-5 respectively
 - Students keep the same device for four years
 - New devices in 9th grade and 5th grade every year
- One two - year block of devices
 - 3-4
 - Oldest devices in grade 4
 - 3rd graders keep the device for two years
 - At the end of two years, devices roll from 4th to 3rd.
 - New devices in 3rd grade after first year, then every 4 years.



2020-2021			2021-2022		
Grade	Model	Needed	Grade	Model	Needed
12	Asus C202SA	221	12	HP Chromebook 11 G6	221 Plus Growth
11	HP Chromebook 11 G6	274	11	Dell Chromebook 3100	274 Plus Growth
10	Dell Chromebook 3100	228	10	HP Chromebook 11A G6 EE	228 Plus Growth
9	HP Chromebook 11A G6 EE	263	9	New Devices	263 Plus Growth
8	Asus C202SA	299	8	HP Chromebook 11 G6	299 Plus Growth
7	HP Chromebook 11 G6	269	7	Dell Chromebook 3100	269 Plus Growth
6	Dell Chromebook 3100	277	6	HP Chromebook 11A G6 EE	277 Plus Growth
5	HP Chromebook 11A G6 EE	285	5	New Devices	285 Plus Growth
4	Dell Chromebook 3100	313	4	HP Chromebook 11A G6 EE	313 Plus Growth
3	HP Chromebook 11A G6 EE	305	3	Dell Chromebook 3100	305 Plus Growth
2	HP Chromebook 11 G6	155	2	HP Chromebook 11 G6	292 Plus Growth
2	Asus C202SA	137	1	New Touch-Screen Devices	287 Plus Growth
1	HP Chromebook 11 G6	287	K	New Touch-Screen Devices	287 Plus Growth
K	Asus C202SA	287			
	Additional for checkout/replacement	368		New Devices	1122 Plus Growth

Chromebooks spend 4 years in active service, then are cycled out to be temporary checkout devices for one more year, then are surplus.



1:1 Chromebook Replacement Plan

- Retirement of devices occurs every four years when students reach grades 8 and 12 beginning in at the end of 2020 - 2021
- Devices spent one extra year as loaner checkout devices to cover breakage and repair
- New devices will be purchased every year for grades 5 and 9 and follow the student to grades 8 and 12
- Multi - year plan to phase in touch devices in K-2 grades



Challenges

- This project is the largest project ever taken on by the Technology Department. This involves:
 - Creation of new checkout form
 - Develop assurance plan and documents
 - Removal of 3,000 devices and cabling from 115 carts
 - Clean and apply new stickers to devices
 - Inspect each device for functionality and damage
 - Add ID tags to cases and install devices into them for over 750 3rd and 4th graders
 - Update inventory tracking for all take-home devices
 - Create process for handling of damaged devices and loaner checkout
 - Develop end-of-year collection and storage plan
 - Cart and summer Chromebook storage
 - Carts alone will require a large space, maybe more than 1,000 square feet



Plan

- Hire four temporary summer helper employees.
- Build workflows for checking out Chromebooks.
- Make an assurance agreement for families.
- Make documentation for staff on what to do with damaged Chromebooks.
- Work with building admins and certified staff to update student handbooks and instruct students on new expectations.
- Communicate with the public.
- Evaluate effectiveness/appropriateness of 3rd/4th Take-Home and revert to cart -based if it is determined to be best.



1:1 Chromebook Replacement Plan

Costs

- At current prices new devices may require approximately \$300,000 for 2021 - 2022
- Beyond 2021-2022 – Annual costs to maintain will likely be approximately \$250,000 per year depending on device costs and growth.
- Parts locker