

Dear Meadowdale High School Parent/Guardian,

I have exciting news for Meadowdale students and families. Beginning with the 2016-17 school year, we will be issuing a laptop computer to every student. This 1:1 model will allow our teaching staff to use technology and online resources in powerful new ways within classroom instruction and will further support collaboration between students. As with the start of any new project, there are questions and I will address a few of these below.

*What does a 1:1 Chromebook mean for students?*

Early in the school year, all students will be assigned a Lenovo chrome book. These machines will have district-issued and district-managed Google Apps for Education accounts. These accounts will give them access to software applications for word-processing, spreadsheets, presentations, forms and e-mail communication. Student data will be stored in Google Drive and will be accessible from a variety of devices with Internet connection. Due to the nature of the Google Apps for Education these accounts are highly secure.

*Why is the Edmonds School District providing individual laptops for high school students?*

As part of the district's strategic direction, we explored ways to provide every student with current tools they need to learn every day so they can meet new standards and be ready for life when they graduate. The chrome books provide a cost-effective means to do this but it is a significant change from our current tools. District staff will be working with MHS staff to develop implementation and computer access for our students and faculty.

*Why is Meadowdale High School participating in the 1:1 Chrome book program?*

Our school staff discussed the merits and workload impact of providing laptops to every student and they were 100% behind this effort. We believe the instructional benefit will outweigh the extra time commitment. With the passage of our last bond this opportunity has become a reality.

I am very excited about our move to 1:1 computing and hope that you are as well. The Meadowdale High School Staff feels incredibly fortunate to belong to a community that values education and recognizes the critical role technology plays in providing a first-class education. We look forward to utilizing this resource to provide a positive impact on our students' learning.

Sincerely,

Kevin Allen