

Hale Area School District (HASD)

1:1 Initiative Frequently Asked Questions

What is one-to-one all about?

- **What is 1:1?**

The term 1:1 means that each student will have his/her own technology device that he/she is able to use in school and take home to complete class assignments. At HASD, this will start with grades nine through twelve for the 2015-2016 school year. Additional grades may follow this plan in the future. At this time, students grades K-12 will also experience a significant increase in access to technology with teachers utilizing classroom carts of Chromebooks and IPADS.

- **Why do this?**

Our goal has always been to best prepare students for their future. Technology has changed the way society gathers and shares information. We believe this technology is an incredible teaching tool that will improve instruction and assessment on a daily basis in all subjects. In addition, we believe this technology will teach and reinforce the skills needed to help us better prepare our students to be career and college ready upon graduation.

- **What technology device was selected for the students at HASD and why?**

The device that was selected is a Chromebook. HASD will be using Google and the free apps that go with it, such as Google Docs, Forms, Sheets, and Slides. Having a Chromebook for these applications (apps) is the best choice because it turns on in five seconds and goes directly to where the documents in these apps are stored. Everything is easily accessible.

- **What type of research did HASD do before deciding on this model?**

Transition to a 1:1 take-home model is a huge decision. This has been a process which started over a year ago. The district explored technology and discussed its findings with the board of education members, administration, and several teachers. Representatives researched best practices and researched several school districts and consulted with many others that are either already 1:1 or are in the process of implementation.

- **Who does the Chromebook belong to?**

Even though each student is responsible for his/her Chromebook that is assigned to him/her, it is still the property of HASD. It is comparable to a textbook. Since the students do not own the Chromebooks, there is a User Agreement that they must sign and follow. This document states the regulations specifically needed for their Chromebook. Also, it is district policy for them to sign an Acceptable Use Policy that deals with proper use of all technology and internet guidelines.

Management of Chromebooks

- **When will students receive their Chromebook? If a student has his/her own device, is he/she able to use that and opt out?**

Students, both current and new, will receive their Chromebook during the first week of school during normal school years. These devices are valuable instructional tools and will be used daily. Every student is required to use the school issued Chromebook. HASD wants students to take advantage of this valuable resource.
- **Since the Chromebooks look the same, how will students tell them apart?**

Each Chromebook has a label on the bottom of it.. This number identifies the Chromebook and is matched with the serial number. Each Chromebook has a different five digit number, so it is the student's responsibility to know what number is there. Additionally, the charger has the same five digit number.
- **Will students be able to take them home every night, on vacations, or during breaks?**

Students will be able to take the devices home every night to complete class assignments. They will also be allowed to take them on vacations, during winter break and spring break. However, at the end of the year, the Chromebooks will be collected for the summer and then handed back out at the beginning of the next year. Each student will receive the same Chromebook that he/she had the previous school year.
- **What happens if a student does not have internet at home?**

Students may do school work with Google docs at home without the internet. Many assignments and handouts will be downloaded while at school. Students will be provided adequate opportunity during the day to do any online research that may be needed. However, the Chromebook is able to connect to wireless internet in any location.
- **What happens if a student leaves HASD?**

If a student leaves the district, it is his/her responsibility to return the device. If it is not returned, the student will be charged the full cost of the device.
- **When a student graduates, can he/she keep the Chromebook?**

At this point No. The Chromebook belongs to HASD; the students will not get to keep them when they graduate. Chromebooks will be returned in a similar fashion that textbooks have been collected for years. In the future we may adopt a policy of purchase after their 4 year life expectancy has been reached.

Costs and Damages

- **What happens if the Chromebook or charger stops working/breaks?**
If this happens, the student is to take the Chromebook or charger to the Technology Coordinator immediately. If the problem can be solved quickly, the student will be able to continue using the device. If the problem is serious, it will be taken into service by the Technology Department and fixed in a timely manner. There are a certain number of loaner Chromebooks that can be given out if needed.
- **What who pays for the device if it becomes damaged?**
Similar to textbooks, students are responsible for taking adequate care of the Chromebook assigned to them. Ultimately the student is responsible for any damages to his or her device. Below is a chart of the most common repair costs insured and uninsured. Any additional repairs not listed will be assessed and priced accordingly.

Repair	Without insurance
Whole Unit	\$200
Screen	\$70
Keyboard	\$70

- **Can Chromebooks get viruses?**
Since the applications run through the browser and online, there is little worry about having viruses infect the Chromebook's software or hardware.
- **What is the cost to charge the Chromebooks?**
*The cost to charge the Chromebook is minimal. The device draws about 45 watts, according to the manufacturer's specifications. To estimate electricity usage or kilowatt hours, use this formula:
(Wattage x Hours plugged in per day x 180 school days) / 1000 = kWh
Then multiply the answer by the cost of electricity per kilowatt hour in Michigan (about \$0.09). That is your estimate for the total annual cost. If your child uses or charges his/her Chromebook at home every day after school for four hours, the annual cost to parents is about \$2.92.*
- **What happens if the Chromebook or charger is lost or stolen?**
If a Chromebook or charger is lost or stolen, students need to report it immediately to the Technology Coordinator. Action from that point will be based on the decision of the district.

Daily Usage of Chromebooks

- **What happens when a student forgets to charge his/her Chromebook?**
There are a certain number of loaner Chromebooks that can be given out for the day if needed. It is the responsibility of the student to bring his or her charged Chromebook to class on a daily basis. They charge quickly so the loaner and student machines will be switched back out before the end of the school day. Loaners may not be taken home unless authorized by the Technology Coordinator.
- **What log-in will the students use, and can the device be used for personal use?**
The students will have a district email that allows them to log into their Chromebook to work on assignments. However, even though they can log in outside of school, the Chromebooks are not intended for personal use.
- **Can other students or parents use the Chromebook?**
No. Only the student that the Chromebook is issued to can use the device.
- **How will students turn in assignments? Will students need to print? If so, where?**
Digital online file sharing between staff and students is one of the great advantages of the Chromebooks and is an easy and efficient way to distribute and turn in assignments without printing. Students will not be able to print from their devices while at school. A student may choose to print while at home, but this will not be necessary. To set up a printer at home, follow the steps on the following link: [Click here for steps to set-up printing](#). Digital submission of student work will often reduce grading time, reduce paper consumption, and more closely replicate what most colleges and universities are already doing. In addition, digital submission of student work will allow the teachers to utilize programs to check for plagiarism.
- **Where will student's work be saved?**
Google allows student work to save to the Cloud, meaning that all of their work is accessible wherever they can log into their email. Also, since their email will be synced to the students' Chromebooks, they are able to access their documents without internet as well, but only on their device.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How often will the Chromebooks be used? Will textbooks and paper assignments become eliminated? <i>Chromebooks will be an integral instruction tool used daily by students. Our goal is to help our students to become career and college ready by providing the best instruction and assessment possible. Although technology is just another tool, we anticipate technology being an extremely powerful tool that will improve instruction and assessment while reducing our dependency on paper and traditional textbooks over time. This is not technology for the sake of technology; digital vs. paper will be an “instructional best practices” decision.</i> ● How long will the Chromebook last? <i>Chromebooks have very few moving parts in them, and they generate very little heat. We anticipate Chromebooks lasting four years. With appropriate care, a single Chromebook should last the entire four years a student is in high school.</i>
<p>Other Questions and Further Help</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will there be any training sessions for students or parents? <i>Over the summer, students will receive information of when to attend orientation. At orientation there will be some training for the students to get them started. As the school year progresses, there will be training naturally incorporated into their everyday learning. There will be future training sessions for students and parents as needed.</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Who can I contact if I have additional questions?</p> <p><i>If you have additional questions, please contact the technology department directly. (989)728-3551 ext 403 or at jcoleman@haleschools.net or techsupport@haleschools.net</i></p>