

Cadet 1:1 Learning Initiative

FAQ's for Students and Parents

Q: Is there a cost to participate?

A: Yes, students will be required to have a \$30.00 deposit in their personal technology account each school year when laptops are distributed. If the deposit is unused to cover repairs during the school year, or restore it to a clean condition, it will be carried over to the next school year - no additional deposit will be required in the next school year. The balance of the deposit will be refunded minus any cost to repair damages, and/or to restore the Computer to a clean condition when the student graduates, or is no longer a student at Iowa Falls-Alden High School.

Q: Are families that qualify for free and reduced lunches required to pay the \$30.00 deposit?

A: Yes, all families are required to pay and maintain the \$30.00 deposit.

Q: What if families cannot pay the \$30.00 Deposit?

A: The school will make arrangements for parents to make partial payments, and/or help to find assistance.

Q: Is participation in the 1:1 program mandatory?

A: Participation is not mandatory, but very highly encouraged. Participation will promote student learning any time, any place, any path, any pace, will promote personalized learning, and will equip students with the ability to “connect” with peers, teachers, and the world.

Q: What if a family does not want their student to participate?

A1: The student does not have to participate. The District prefers that all students have the same equipment and the same opportunity to be successful, as the use of laptops will become more and more integrated into student learning experiences.

A2: The learning experiences of those students who participate in the Cadet 1:1 Learning Initiative will not be held back by those who chose not to participate.

Q: Can students use their own personal laptop, or personal electronic devices that access the school's network, while at school instead of a school laptop?

A: No. While at school, everyone will need to use school-issued computers. This will have the settings, access to the server, and programs needed by the student while at school. This policy also helps protect the school's servers and networks from viruses and other network issues. The student's personal computer and other personal electronic devices may be used at home, of course.

Q: What if families do not wish to allow their child to take the laptop home?

A: Arrangements may be made to check the laptop in at a secure location at the end of the school day, and check it out at the start of the next school day.

Q: Are the laptops insured?

A: Yes. The District has purchased insurance that provides the broadest perils of loss available.

Q: Are the laptops under warranty for repairs?

A: Yes. The District has purchased an Apple Care Protection Plan for every laptop. This protection plan extends the warranty on each laptop for four years and covers the cost of repairs for normal wear and tear on the laptop as well as the breakdown of any flawed laptop part. Incidental (unintentional) damaged is not covered by warranty.

Q: How long do repairs take?

A: Most often laptops that are not working will have to be mailed in for repair and should be returned in working condition or replaced within one or two weeks.

Q: Are loaner laptops available during times of repair?

A: Loaner laptops will likely be available for students during times of repair/replacement. Students should be prepared to access their back-up files and documents from their flash drives to use on the loaner computer so that there is not a loss of learning productivity.

Q: Where does a student go for technical support?

A: A *Help Desk* will be located in the library and will be staffed by trained staff and students.

Q: What happens if the laptop becomes damaged?

A1: In the event the laptop does not work due to normal wear and tear, and there is no evidence of improper use, the Apple Care warranty will cover the expense to repair.

A2: In the event of incidental (unintentional) damage, or improper use, not covered by the warranty, the student will be billed a fee according to the following schedule:

- First incident – up to \$50 (The technology deposit will be used to reduce the fee.)
- Second incident – up to \$100
- Third incident – up to \$150
- Fourth and more incidents (habitual issues) - minimum of \$150 up to a maximum of the current value of the laptop

A3: In the event of malice and/or intentional damage, the student is responsible to pay the full cost to repair or replace the laptop. There is no warranty coverage for malice or intentional damage.

Q: If a student's laptop breaks, who will determine if the problem is a manufacturing defect, normal wear, or if it is negligence on the part of the student?

A: If there is conflicting evidence for determining warranty coverage, Apple Care will determine if the problem is caused by normal wear and tear, defective part(s), or improper use

Q: What happens if a student's laptop is intentionally damaged by someone else?

A: This would be vandalism. If it happens at school and can be proven, a police report will be filed. The student, or whomever, vandalized the computer would pay the full cost to replace or repair the damage. If it happened at school, disciplinary action will be taken. If the person who vandalized the computer refuses or fails to pay restitution for the damage, the case will be turned over to law enforcement.

Q: What happens if the laptop is lost or stolen?

A1: The District reserves the right to charge the student the full cost for replacement when the loss occurs due to gross negligence. Two examples of gross negligence include: a) leaving the computer unattended and unlocked, and b) lending the computer to others other than one's parents/guardians.

A2: The District will replace the computer when the loss of the computer is not due to gross negligence by the student, but the student's technology deposit will not be refunded.

Q: Do families need to have Internet access at home?

A: An Internet connection at home will be beneficial to students, but is not required. Some assignments can be downloaded and completed at home. The laptop computers will have many uses at home without internet access, but the students' ability to get full benefit from their assigned computer will be much greater if they have Internet access at home or access in the community. Students without Internet access at home can always work at school before or after the school day, and/or work at public "hot spots." Current public "hot spots" in the communities include the public libraries in Iowa Falls and Alden.

Q: Will school laptops be able to use the family's home Internet service?

A: Yes. Students will be able to switch from the school's Internet access to their home Internet provider. The District will assist if software provided by the home Internet provider needs to be installed. A wireless connection is not required at home—laptops can be connected to a DSL modem through an Ethernet cable. Laptops will likely not work with a dial-up connection.

Q: What processes will be in place to ensure proper computer use?

A: The District's *Laptop Loan and Acceptable Use Agreement* will govern student use. Filters will be installed on all laptops, and will function twenty-four hours a day. Students will be randomly monitored throughout the school day through the *Apple Remote Desktop Program* – this program can be used to watch, block, send messages, etc., any time students are on the school's network. When students are in school they are not allowed to use their phones or other devices as a "hot spot" for internet access. Parents will need to be involved with their student's use of the Internet and monitor the use of the Internet at home.

Q: Can chargers be swapped?

A: No. Every charger is labeled with the ID number of the laptop that it belongs to. Students need to be responsible for their own equipment. At the end of the year, students will be responsible for returning the same laptop, charger, bag, and flash drive that was checked out to them.

Q: Can laptops be carried in a student's own case or backpack?

A: No. Students must carry laptops in the school-issued cases only. This is the only way the District can ensure adequate protection... especially to the display (screen), the most fragile part of the laptop. A laptop stored in a school-issued bag should not, be placed inside a backpack or other such bag.

Q: Can the students change the outward appearance of their laptop?

A: The Student *is not permitted* to place permanent or adhesive stickers, labels, tags, or markings on the laptop, bag or charger.

Q: Can laptops be used during breakfast or lunch?

A: No. Laptops are not allowed in the Student Center during mealtimes. Food & drinks should always be kept away from laptops.

Q: What if the laptop is forgotten at home?

A: Students must be responsible for bringing all the necessary tools with them to school each day. Forgetting a laptop does not excuse a student from participating in class. Students who forget their laptops may use classroom or lab computers, if available. They cannot borrow a laptop from another student.

Q: How do students deal with the power limitations of a laptop?

A: Students should charge their laptop every night at home and always bring it to school fully charged. A fully charged battery should get at least 4 hours of use during the school day. Students will carry their chargers with them in their bags and, if needed, can plug into outlets and power strips to charge in any class.

Q: Can students listen to music if they are finished with all work?

A: This is a decision left up to the individual teacher. Headphones must be used at all times. Students must provide their own headphones. Profanity, explicit lyrics, and/or any derogatory language on the school issued computer are against the *Laptop Loan and Acceptable Use Agreement* and could be cause for disciplinary action.

Q: Where do students print?

A: Over time, the printing needs will decrease. When a printout is absolutely necessary, students may print at school through designated printers on the network. Drivers for printers, other than those used at school, will not be installed on the student's laptop.

Q: How will students back up the files on their laptops?

A: Each student will be issued a flash drive to back up the data/files stored on his/her laptop. Students should back up their data/files on a regular, routine schedule. Student data/files will NOT be stored on District servers.

Q: What should students do with their laptops...

...between classes? Put the laptop to sleep and carry it in the school-issued bag.

...during lunch? Put the laptop to sleep, put it inside the school-issued bag, and lock it in the hallway locker.

...during PE, sports practice, etc? Store laptops in the school issued bag and lock in hallway locker. (Laptops are not to be stored in locker rooms.)

...on the bus to activities? Laptops are not allowed on activity buses unless specifically needed to do homework for the next day.

Q. Can laptops be taken out of town on school/personal trips?

A: An important focus of the Cadet 1:1 Learning Initiative is for students to be able to learn – any time, any place, any path, any pace. However, students must responsibly protect and take care of their laptop even when a teacher is not present.

Q: Can everyone in the family use the student's laptop?

A1: Yes. The student's parents may use the laptop.

A2: No, for any other family members.

The laptop is being provided to further the student's education and opportunities. Therefore, the laptop should not be used by anyone - besides the student's parents. Students are ultimately responsible for their laptops; just like any school-issued item.

Q: Will students use traditional textbooks?

A: Many classes will still use traditional textbooks for now. The laptop computer is an instructional tool to allow the student to have greater access to learning resources.

Q: Will the laptops be collected at the end of the school year?

A: Yes, all laptops will be collected at the end of each school year to be re-imaged and to receive updated software. Students may also have their computer checked for damages sometime during the school year.

Q: Will the students get their same assigned laptop each year?

A: Yes, the students will get their same assigned laptop each year.

Q: Can seniors purchase their laptops at the end of the year?

A: No. The District is on a four-year replacement program, and will move the laptops to other school buildings at the end of the fourth year.

Q: Who is responsible for making sure that the Cadet 1:1 Learning Initiative is successful?

A: We are all in this together – teachers, staff, administrators, board members, parents and students. We must all keep in mind that the laptop is to be used to enhance, accelerate, and transform learning and subsequently achievement. It is up to each and every one of us to help the students succeed with this great instructional tool and learning opportunity that they have been given.