



Bedford Central School District
Inspiring and Challenging Our Students



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we continue our planning and refine the details for the opening of school, I am writing with some technology updates.

Chromebooks

The 2020-2021 budget included funding for every student to receive an individually assigned Chromebook. I would like to highly suggest that every family have their child(ren) use a BCSD assigned Chromebook, instead of a personal computer. One of the many things we learned last spring is that students have a more consistent experience when using a BCSD Chromebook. Using a District Chromebook means that students have immediate access to Chrome apps and extensions, which have been pre-installed and will have more fluid movement between these apps because, when possible, accounts are synced and an additional log-in will not be required. Additionally, District Chromebooks are filtered to comply with law and policy providing a safer Internet browsing experience. (Although, no filter is perfect and parents should still supervise use of Chromebooks at home). If a student has a Chromebook that was received last spring, the student should bring that Chromebook to school on the first day. All students will be asked to transport their Chromebook between school and home daily so that the Chromebook is at home in the event of a building closure. The Chromebook should come to school fully charged each day. Students who do not currently have Chromebooks will be assigned a Chromebook in September. Attached to this email is a Chromebook agreement. We ask parents/guardians to discuss proper use of the Chromebook with your child and sign the agreement acknowledging that you have received a Chromebook and that its use is subject to Board of Education policy and the School Code of Conduct. The completed agreement should be returned to your child's school. While delivery of a Chromebook will not be delayed by receipt of this agreement, we ask that the agreement be returned within the first two weeks of school.

Kindergarten and Grade 1

Due to supply chain issues and factory delays, we are expecting Chromebooks for grades K & 1 to be delayed until October. Students in First grade who have a BCSD Chromebook from the spring should keep that Chromebook in the event that we go fully remote. If Kindergarten and Grade 1 families do not have personal computers to use at home, and the District is required to have all students move to remote learning, before new Chromebooks arrive, or you are choosing the Full Remote Learning option and need a Chromebook, please let us know, through the [student technology help desk](#), and we will do our best to help. With these

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grades attending school every day, teachers are planning instruction that will not immediately use Chromebooks.

Grades 2 - 4

Students in grades 2-4 who have a BCSD Chromebook from the Spring should plan to bring that Chromebook to school on the first day and keep a Chromebook for the school year in the event that we go fully remote.

Grade 5

Students in grade 5 who have a BCSD Chromebook from the Spring should plan to bring that Chromebook to school on the first day. Your child's Chromebook will be traded out for a newer one during the month of October.

Grades 6 -12

Middle School and High School students will continue to use their Chromebook which was assigned to them last year. If the student did not take their Chromebook home in the Spring, the Chromebook will be ready in school in September. Once the delayed shipment arrives, Grade 9 students will receive a Chromebook, which they will use through 12th grade. Grade 12 students will be receiving newer re-purposed Chromebooks, to replace the currently assigned Chromebook, in October.

Process of Assigning and Distributing Chromebooks

Shifting Inventory

Moving from Chromebooks in carts to assigning a Chromebook to every student K-12 is a large undertaking. While we want to get Chromebooks into the hands of students as quickly as possible, we must also track BCSD inventory while meeting our goal of students in the same grade having the same model chromebook, providing for a consistent and reliable experience for students and teachers. Many of our parents have already been contacted by the Technology Department to swap out an existing Chromebook for a different model. We appreciate your assistance with this process. Continuing this process of confirming inventory, many elementary students will have their Chromebook swapped for a different model in the first weeks of school. We appreciate your understanding during this process.

Picking up Chromebooks in advance

Students in grades 2-5, 7-8 & 10-12 that are in Hybrid Group 2 (remote learning) on September 10th or chose the option of daily remote learning may pick up the assigned Chromebook on September 8th from your school, so that you are prepared for remote learning.





Students in grades 6 & 9 without Chromebooks, will receive a Chromebook during orientation on September 9th. Students in grades 6 & 9 who have chosen daily remote learning may pick up their Chromebook at the September 8th pick-up

School specific communications will be sent out with specific times and instructions for picking up Chromebooks on September 8th.

Getting Technology Help

In-School Help

When in school, students can get help with any technology by speaking with their teacher and visiting the school Computer Aide.

Help from Home

When not in school, students may request help by using our [Student Technology Help Desk Form, linked here](#) and available on the home page of every school website.

Home Internet

Families without reliable home Internet access may request a BCSD hotspot for students to access remote learning. If you currently have a hotspot from the Spring, you can expect a phone call to confirm that the hotspot is still needed and possibly swap out the hotspot for necessary updates. If you do not have a hotspot and are in need of one, [you may request one by completing this form.](#)

Resources for Parents

For Information on Instructional Technology Resources, or how to navigate Instructional Technology Tools, you can visit the [Instructional Technology Resources section of our website here.](#)

If you have questions about technology access or support throughout the year, you may contact your school's Computer Aide through the main office, or email me.

Regards,

David Gee
Director of Technology

