ONE-TO-ONE Laptop Program

September 2019

What is the primary goal of this initiative?

CCA's grades 7 & 8 students engage in a One-to-One laptop program. Specifically, students are strongly recommended to bring a laptop to school to support his/her learning. The key goal of this initiative is improving and enhancing student learning through ubiquitous computing. Ubiquitous computing makes use of a variety of digital devices and resources to engage students in critically analyzing information, creating new knowledge, communicating what they have learned, and choosing tools that are appropriate for a particular task. Ultimately, it will further enhance our ability to focus on what matters most for our students, creating a learning environment that fosters inquiry, critical thinking, creativity, metacognition and genuine engagement in learning.

As a RVS school that promotes 21st Century learning, we believe that the possibilities opened by a one-to-one environment will enrich the learning of our students. All RVS high schools and most of the division's middle schools are using one-to-one as a way to better engage, enrich and empower their students. Teachers help prepare students on how best to utilize laptops in their learning.

How is CCA going to support students as they become responsible digital citizens?

CCA staff will continue to support and respect the principles that you the parents have begun, concerning appropriate use of technology. In addition, all students will be required to complete an online safety course, which is recommended by Alberta Education. Staff will also facilitate frank classroom discussions concerning appropriate behavior in a digital world. Parents will be invited to attend School Council meetings that highlight digital citizenship learning opportunities.

How does One-to-One increase student access to technology?

Every student in Grade 7 & 8 will have uninterrupted access to digital learning tools. This will allow students to explore the many uses and advantages of having their own laptop. Parents and students can consult the attached computer specification information as a guide in selecting a suitable device. While minimum standards are given, students and their families can explore devices with greater capabilities or upgrades to suit personal preferences.

How frequently do we expect students to be using these tools?

Computers will be used when appropriate (co-determined by teachers and students) to enrich learning. The advantage of the one-to-one system is that teachers will be able to seamlessly move from an on-line environment to other forms of teaching within a single class.

Will CCA be able to help facilitate the purchase of laptops?
HP, Dell, and Apple have agreed to offer RVS parents an educational discount pricing. Contact school secretary for more information.

Are tablet devices such as iPads acceptable technology for this initiative?
While tablets are improving at a very quick rate, these devices still have limitations with respect to software capability and compatibility. Furthermore, they are currently not aligned with the high school requirements, therefore we do not recommend purchasing one for a middle school student.

How will student computers be supported?
Ultimately students will be responsible for their own laptops including safe handling, warranty issues, and repair.

How will the students be able to power/charge their units for a full day usage?
Students will need to be proactive in charging their machines daily at home. CCA will be providing power-charging sources should they be required.

How will computer theft and damage be addressed?
CCA strongly recommends parents insure their child's computer through home insurance and consider purchasing vendor offered warranties. As with all possessions brought to school, it is important for students to keep their valuables secure and safe by keeping them in their locker and under supervision. In addition, there are options that help track ownership of the laptops such as engraving.

Does CCA have the infrastructure to support additional student laptops?
Rocky View personnel have already increased the number of access points in the school to support any increased demand on our wireless server. We will continue to monitor the situation as the year progresses to determine if there are problem spots and then solve those issues as they arise.

Where can I go for more information?
CCA encourages parents to contact the school administration and teachers at 403-932-5177 if they have any questions.

What is recommended for Backup and Storage?
Each student will need to save the material they create to their machine and, later, backup at home on an external hard drive or it can be saved to the cloud. It is recommended that you purchase extra storage.

What IT Support is available at the school?
CCA has an IT support person on site to address on-going issues related to connectivity to the RVS wireless network. Additional assistance is available provided the issue is of a nature that will not jeopardize laptop warranty. Due to the ownership of the machine and the issues related to warranties, hardware/software support is the responsibility of the laptop owner.

What power charging access is available for students?
Most laptop batteries today will last students the day. With this said, it is highly recommended that students charge their computers each night and take the necessary precautions to "save" battery power during the day. Each room will have access to power sources should students need to charge their machines.

Laptop Minimum Requirements
The following information and links below are provided to assist parents in choosing an appropriate laptop.

MAC

- Mac OS X 10.12 or greater
- Minimum 4GB ram
- [Microsoft Office 365](#) (free for all students under "Students" tab on CCA Website)

PC

- Windows 8 or higher
- Minimum 4GB ram
- [Microsoft Office 365](#) (free for all students under "Students" tab on CCA Website)
- [Antivirus Software](#) (click link for free download)