

Parent Information on Student Devices for 2020-2021

FRSD GOAL:

FRSD will provide a district device for every student that needs one.

Current Situation:

Upon starting instruction in the fall, we will not have enough district-owned Chromebook devices to provide a for every student K-12.

Our current number of district-owned Chromebooks will allow us to have 1:1 devices for our 9-12 students and those that are in need of one for working at home.

By November, we hope to have district-owned Chromebook devices for ALL students.

The stock of district-owned Chromebooks we have on hand will cover those in the community that do not have adequate devices at home.

We will be surveying families to understand which households have a device appropriate for our online activities and who will need a district device.

Parents/Guardians that are able to provide a device for their student:

Please be aware that when we return to on-site instruction, district owned devices will be the only supported standard. We do not plan to support or use student-owned devices for onsite instruction.

For those households that are wondering what will work best with our distance-learning suite of tools, below are our recommendations from most compatible to least.

Device Recommendations:

Above all other devices, the district recommends a Chromebook. It will provide your child with the best educational experience and will be most compatible with online instruction.

Below are other options that may work but not as cohesively:

Windows Computer or laptop with Windows 10, camera and microphone.

Laptops usually have the camera and microphone built in; desktop computers need a separate web cam and speakers.

The Google chrome browser is not required, but it will provide the best experience and work with less 'fiddling' with plugins and settings.

Late model tablets - (with camera and mic, keyboard preferred)

There are lots of models, Apple or Android and your experience will vary widely depending on the specific platform and model.

A tablet more than 2-3 years old, especially inexpensive ones are very likely to be problematic.

Without a keyboard, certain assignments can be more challenging.

Some content or conferencing might be problematic.

Due to the form factor and higher chance of compatibility issues, we do not recommend purchasing a new one for distance learning, but if you already have one, it will likely be sufficient.

Phones-

While phones can theoretically run a browser and conferencing tools, the form factor and likely software issues will be problematic, and we would consider phones as not suitable for Comprehensive Distance Learning.