Harker Middle School BYOD Laptop Program

The Harker School supports a 1:1 laptop program in grades 6 through 12. This program is a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program where students and families have the freedom to choose the best laptop platform for success at Harker. Beginning in middle school, students will experience a wide range of technology requirements in their classes where a laptop is necessary. Every student is required to have a laptop that meets these requirements every day when they come to school. Please review the following information for minimum specifications before purchasing a laptop for middle school. In addition to minimum specifications, we also have guidelines for acceptable use that all students must follow. This information will be provided to all middle school students through an online technology and digital literacy orientation course, provided during the Summer to get all students ready for the upcoming school year.

What you need:
- Laptop−choice of Windows or Mac Operating System (Linux & Chrome OS not supported)
  - Must meet or exceed minimum specifications
  - A user account for the student that is an admin account
- Protective laptop case - Required for all students
  - Shoulder bag or backpack insert with significant protection is recommended, so that students have the ability to carry their laptops safely from class to class in addition to other class materials.
  - Neoprene sleeve protectors are not sufficient.
- Necessary curricular and productivity software
  - Instructions and links to required applications are provided in the Summer technology and digital literacy orientation course.

What Harker provides:
- Level 1 Tech Help Desk support
  - Technicians are available for limited hours on campus to troubleshoot laptop issues.
  - Troubleshooting is limited to connectivity (Internet), printing, and other school-related software. Families are responsible for fixes related to hardware and personally-owned software.
- Loaner Laptop program
  - A limited number of laptops are available for temporary loan if a student is having their laptop repaired. Students are expected to return the loaned laptop in an appropriate amount of time that can be determined at the time of loaning.

Laptop Minimum Specifications and Store Links

Students are required to bring a laptop to school every day. Currently, the middle school program supports Windows and Apple platforms for regular day use (Linux & Chrome OS not supported for everyday use). In order to perform the required tasks in a variety of classes, students need to have laptops with a minimum set of specifications. We are providing those requirements here along with links to web stores that meet the requirements we have set.

Minimum Specifications

- WiFi capable (ethernet port not required)
- Webcam (at least one camera recommended)
- Bluetooth capable
- USB 2.0+ port (or adapter)
- adapter to VGA (optional, but recommended)

	Minimum	Recommended
Hard Drive	128 GB (SSD)	256 GB (SSD) or greater
RAM	8 GB	16 GB or greater
Processor	M1 chip or i5 (1.1 GHz)	M1 Pro or i7 dual-core (1.8 GHz) or greater

Laptop Schools - http://www.laptopschools.com/

We have put together a custom store for Harker families that include an array of Lenovo (Windows) laptop models that meet or exceed our minimum specifications. You may purchase laptops from any vendor of your choice and we are happy to extend Laptop Schools as our preferred vendor in your decision process.

To order from Laptop Schools:
- Go to laptopschools.com and Register for an account
- Select Harker in the listing of schools
- Choose from any of the listed models

Apple - https://www.apple.com/us_k12nonbts_804863/shop

We have put together an online store through Apple for Education. While the store provides many Apple products, **students are required to have a laptop** for school. The laptop choices (Mac OS) in the store meet or exceed our minimum specifications.

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Help Desk and Loaner Laptop program details:

If your laptop software is not functioning
- Help Desk services are available on-campus from 7:00am-8:00am and 4:00pm-5:00pm
- Free troubleshooting and installation assistance
  - Software and system adjustments if necessary

If your laptop hardware is not functioning
- Free troubleshooting is available
- No repair services are provided by the Help Desk
- When available, a loaner laptop will be issued if the laptop cannot function for educational use
- Evidence of a third-party repair agreement is required for extended loaner laptop use

Loaner Laptops
In the case that a student's laptop is not functioning or is already out for repair, the Help Desk is prepared to issue a temporary loaner laptop while their device is out for servicing. There are two ways a student can be issued a loaner laptop; first, the student can bring in a service ticket from the repair location that is working on their device, second is to have the Help Desk assist with troubleshooting the actual laptop to confirm that it is non-functioning.

Conditions for Loaner Laptops are as follows:
- Meet the above two criteria to be issued a loaner.
- Loaner laptops are available
- The first 5 business days are free of charge
  - $5/day beginning on the 6th business day with a maximum charge of $100/month.
- Platforms of the loaner laptops will consist of Chrome OS, Mac and Windows platforms
  - Platform choice is not guaranteed for loaner laptops
  - Loaners are available on a first-come-first-served basis and are not guaranteed to be available

For further program information, please see the MS Laptop Program FAQs in the Middle School/Current Parent Info section at http://www.harker.org. If you have further questions, please contact the Director of Information Technology, Jesse Lara at techhelpms@harker.org.