



# St. Clement of Rome School

www.scrschool.org

Dear Middle School Parents,

Next year, SCR is implementing its first 1:1 program for grades 5 to 7. We will be utilizing the G Suite for Education from Google which is most compatible with the Chromebook device. We have successfully run a few case studies this year in particular classrooms and are pleased with the feedback and results to the broader spectrum of learning.

A Chromebook superficially resembles a laptop with a keyboard and screen that is small enough to be carried from class to class easily. Many of its software designs allow it to function similarly to a tablet for ease of use. A Chromebook is unable to become infected by a virus because all the programs available are vetted through Google's store.

Why are we implementing a 1:1 program?

***"Change is happening at lightning speed, and if educators respond to it at a turtle's pace, we run the risk of failing to prepare a generation of our future workforce for jobs that don't exist today but will tomorrow, jobs that require citizens to be engaged, think critically, and act together." - Matt Levinson, From Fear to Facebook***

This extends down to even the elementary grades in preparing our children for the challenges they will face in their upcoming high school and college years. The largest, most significant, impact is allowing SCR to put the latest research and advances from around the world into a student's hands on a daily basis. Closely following is the idea of digital citizenship and responsibility everyone must excel at in our modern times.

After checking with various other implementations and reviewing several different models, we have found, with school board input, that the best and most cost effective method per unit is to provide a recommendation list addendum to our supply list for the upcoming school year. The average cost for a unit per consumer runs roughly \$250 base with various sales as low as \$200. As a school considering wholesale prices, SCR would be required to purchase business class models that run \$300 base.

Since chromebooks are similar in working components, there are very few differences between models. SCR is requiring that any chromebook purchased by students has the touchscreen feature which was included in the price quotes above.

For families where this may be a financial hardship, an application process is being developed to qualify for a rent-to-own program throughout the school year. Also a school provided chromebook rental program is being developed just for 7th grade students of the 2017-2018 school year to offset their shorter usage.

We feel this implementation will better prepare your child not only in their educational endeavors, but will provide them with life skills for the future.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

Dr. Patricia Speeg

### **1:1 Chromebook School Supply List Addendum**

In addition to the regular school supply list, if your child is in grades 5 to 7, he/she will need to bring a chromebook fully charged to school every day as well as earbuds.

To acquire said chromebook, please inquire with any retailer as many different makes and models are available. We are requiring 1 feature in addition to the base model; the Chromebook is to have a touchscreen.

7th graders of the 2017-2018 school year have the option to rent a school chromebook for \$100. Please fill out an application available in the front office, if you wish to utilize this option.

For families where this may be a financial hardship, the option to rent-to-own from the school will be available. Please fill out an application in the front office. Please note that the overall cost will be higher than purchasing from a retailer because the school cost is higher.

Some tested models for compatibility and recommended, in no particular order:

- A. [Acer R11 Series C738T](#) ~ \$250
- B. [HP Chromebook 11 G5](#) ~ \$200
- C. [ASUS Flip Chromebook](#) ~ \$200

In addition many “shells” that wrap around the unit and such are available to offer protection. Different types of stickers (aka skins) are available for decoration as well as reinforcement. Finally, outer “sleeves”, “hardshells”, and “cases” can aid for additional drop protection.

SCR’s recommendation is at least a neoprene sleeve for cushioning inside the backpack. These typically retail for \$10; a SCR logo printed version is coming soon to the bookstore. Any shells, sleeves, stickers, and/or covers must fall within the guidelines of the Archdiocese of New Orleans school policies; if in doubt, please inquire with the school.