

UNION SCHOOL CORPORATION STUDENT DEVICE FACT SHEET

Who will receive the student devices: All students in grades 9 – 12 will be provided with a student device. Students in grade 8 who are enrolled in a high school course will be assigned a student device for their classroom use during the school day.

How will the student device be used: Technology is a core component of how our students will learn and access information, just as it is at many, many workplaces today. The student device will become an integral part of the educational process and all high school students must have one to participate in classroom activities that require it. Students will be expected to use and incorporate the student device into their daily learning experiences. They will be used in the classroom for note taking, in projects, to research information in and outside the classroom, and in general be an integral part of everyday activity in most classes and for homework purposes. Many assignments will be submitted to teachers digitally rather than handing in paper copies. Some classes will utilize the student device more than others, and some days they will be used more than other days. The goal is not to have all students on computers and the internet all day long, and the computers will not take the place of classroom teachers.

How will students be protected from offensive materials: Federal law requires schools to filter internet content and monitor student internet activity in order to protect them from offensive materials. Union School Corporation already actively does this today and blocks inappropriate internet content. Filtering software will be installed on each student device and this software will work any time the internet is accessed by that student device, not just at school.

What if you do not have Internet at home: Students will learn how to download and store materials during the school day that they will need for homework in the evening. Developing the skills to plan and manage these types of situations is important for all of our students. Computers are used in many ways that do not involve internet access at all. Writing, word processing, presentations and spreadsheets are all examples of use that don't require the internet. For those times that the internet may be necessary to complete an assignment or project, students will have ample time to plan his/her internet access during the school day. Students can make arrangements to study with other students who do have home internet access.

Will the students be required to take the student device home each night: Students will take their device home with them to utilize for homework assignments and return to school each day with a fully charged battery. It is important that students learn to be prepared for school every day and come to class prepared.

Will you provide a protective sleeve or bag for the student device? The school will provide a carrying case for the device. It is strongly recommended that students always use the bag when transporting the device.

What if a family cannot afford the rental: For those students who qualify for free/reduced lunch prices, the cost of the student device is \$0. The state currently reimburses school for most of the costs for lunches and textbooks (and now computers) for these families.

The State regulates how we handle our Textbook Rental Funds and what percentage of the cost of a textbook or student device we are allowed to collect each year. We are not allowed to offer discounts to families with multiple children for any amounts charged to parents via textbook rental. Everyone must be charged the same amount for like items.

USC can accept payments throughout the school year for those families who need some flexibility in their fee payment.

If the student device is being repaired, will a replacement be provided for the student: Yes, USC will have spare devices for students to check out while their device is in for repairs. Many classrooms will also have a desktop work station available during class time to limit disruption in case of individual student hardware issues.

Do students have to rent a student device from the school? Can they use one from home? Students must rent a device from the school.

Who is responsible for repair fees or replacement: Union School Corporation will be responsible for providing repair or replacement services, although the cost of the repair and service fee may revert to the student/parent if the reason is intentional damage, negligence, or loss/theft due to negligence. Students on paid or free and reduced lunch are responsible for the cost of the repairs. Cases of damage/loss will be reviewed individually and the building principal will make the final decisions in these matters.

Will parents/students be allowed to install tracking software or other software: No. Only authorized USC personnel will be allowed to install ANY software on these computers.

Will the student device be traceable? Are they specifically assigned to a student: Each student's device will have both a USC asset tag and a manufacturer's serial number, both of which will be assigned to that student and be part of our inventory system. We can utilize our inventory system to check student devices in and out.

Will the fee for the student device eliminate other textbook rental costs: We are currently reviewing and updating our charges for textbook rental and fees. Every effort is being made to reduce costs in this area for our parents wherever we can. Our \$10 technology fee will be eliminated for those students who will be renting student device. In subsequent years, USC will look closely at each subject area that is up for adoption (this is a 6 year rotating cycle set by the Dept of Education). Teachers and principals will determine which classes do and do not need a textbook for each student. Some teachers may opt for a classroom set of textbooks, choosing to utilize online resources and/or develop online curriculum for students to use.

What happens to the student device at the end of the school year? The student devices are the property of USC and must be returned at the end of the school year just like a textbook. Student devices will receive routine maintenance and software upgrades over the summer. In most cases, students will receive the same student device when they return to school in the fall.