



December 4, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Todd County Schools is pleased to announce the next step of our journey into 21st Century Learning. Through a partnership with Apple computers, Todd County students will soon have the entire world as a classroom. As this project is implemented, we expect to see learning become a rigorous, exciting occurrence for our students. Join us **January 10, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.** in the TCCHS auditorium as we celebrate with students, parents, and the community to roll out **over 550** laptops to our high school students! During this event, we will cover a number of topics. Among them will be:

- Basic training – care of your laptop
- Student laptop insurance program
- 1:1 implementation information

Our staff has been busy planning and preparing for this project. We have been working carefully with engineers from Apple and our network company to prepare the infrastructure that will support the project and ease our transition into a 21st century learning center. To that end, we have equipped all five schools in Todd County with full wireless internet connectivity so students can be connected to the internet/network wherever they may be located on school campuses.

January 10th will be an exciting day and much information will be distributed. In order for students to have 24/7 access to their laptops and bring them home, students must purchase insurance and parents/guardians must complete paperwork. These items will be discussed during the January 10th session. You will then have the opportunity to complete the paperwork and purchase the insurance. The cost for the spring semester, which will cover from January to the close of school, will be \$40. It will also be during this event that students will receive their laptops if the insurance and paperwork have been completed. *For this reason, we are encouraging you to attend this event. Both parent AND student must attend in order to receive your laptop.*

We know you will have many questions as we go through this project. Please do not hesitate to contact us because we are available to help. You may email project21c@todd.kyschools.us and check our website often for updates http://todd.kyschools.us/TCPS/Project_21c.html.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Kenner
Superintendent

Rory Fundora
CIO/DTC

Project 21c – Frequently Asked Questions

What is Project 21c?

Project 21c is an initiative to bring 21st century tools into the hand of our students to give them the skills they need to compete in the job market, locally and globally. This project includes over 150 teacher laptops, mobile carts for the elementary and middle school and a 1:1 initiative at the high school. In the 1:1 Initiative, students will be assigned a laptop to be used during the school day, as well as at home.

What type of laptop will my student receive?

Each high school student will receive an Apple MacBook laptop.

What if my child already has a laptop? Can they bring their laptop into school?

No, we will not support any personally owned computers on our network. There are many reasons for this, such as, virus protection and online/internet content filtering. In addition, with the District owned laptops, we are ensuring that each student has the same tools and resources to complete their assignments.

What will it cost?

There is no cost for the laptop – the only cost to families will be to purchase Student Laptop Insurance. The purchase price/value of an Apple MacBook is approximately \$1200.

What is Student Laptop Insurance?

SLI is an insurance policy purchased by families that will cover the laptop once it leaves campus if there is any damage or theft. The policy will be in effect this school year from January 2009 to May 2009 at a total cost of \$40. This payment will be due January 10, 2009 in order for your student to bring the laptop home. The cost for the 2009-2010 school year will be approximately \$80 for the year. There is also a \$100 per incident deductible which will be your responsibility to pay if a claim is filed.

What if we chose not to purchase the insurance?

Students who do not purchase SLI will be considered "Day Users". They will check out their laptops each morning and return their laptops each afternoon prior to leaving school.

Will my child be able to take the laptop home on weekends, breaks and during the summer?

Students who purchase insurance will be able to take their laptops home each evening, on weekends and during breaks. However, all laptops will be collected in May and held over the summer. This allows our technology department to complete maintenance and upgrades on all machines.

Will my child have the same laptop each year?

Students will keep the same laptop throughout their time at Todd County Central High School.

Can we connect the laptop to our own internet connection at home?

Yes, you may connect your laptop to your home internet connection. You may need to purchase additional equipment, which will be your responsibility. Contact the tech support of your home internet provider for assistance in connecting.

What if we don't have internet at home? Then my child can not complete assigned work.

We understand that many areas of Todd County do not have internet service, or have dial-up service at best. Teachers are aware of this and will not be giving homework or assignments that will require internet access at home. We have a high speed network on campus. Students will have ample time to gather all resources necessary while at school; they will then be able to take the information home and complete their assignment/project.

How will my student be protected while online?

There will be software installed on each laptop that will enforce the same internet restrictions they have while at school when they are at home. In other words, if they can't access it at school, then they can't access it at home.

What if my student's laptop needs to be repaired? What will be used in class?

We will have a spare pool of laptops available for replacement units when a laptop needs to be sent in for service.