



# HADDONFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## Frequently Asked Questions about the Haddonfield School District

### 1:1 Chromebook Program

*Revised June 2021*

#### **Why a \$50 fee?**

The District, in accordance with the practice of most NJ Districts, now charges a small fee to cover the cost of damage to a personally assigned device. Think of it as an insurance policy. This way parents aren't paying hundreds of dollars if a device is damaged in school or at home. Simply, since students are now assigned a particular device and they can take the device home, the \$50 fee is charged as a protection for families.

#### **Is the \$50 fee paid each year or just a one-time fee?**

The Device Maintenance Fee is a yearly fee. (Refer to Device Maintenance Agreement Page 2)

#### **Why is it a yearly fee?**

We are expecting the usable lifetime of the Chromebook model that the District purchased to be 3 years meaning you will have a new Chromebook every third year. This specific model is best suited for academic needs. These Chromebooks were selected for their durability, the ability to be stored and charged in the Carts we already possess, and for the ease in which the District can centrally manage software updates via the Mobile Device Management software. These model Chromebooks would cost the District close to \$300 to replace. Therefore, like one's yearly car or homeowner's policy, asking for \$50 yearly to insure the device seems very reasonable.

#### **How do I pay the fee and when is it due by?**

Payment is due by 11/1/2021 and can be made through the MySchoolBucks Portal OR by check. Checks are to be made payable to: "Haddonfield Board of Education".

### **What does the fee cover?**

Device Maintenance Fee covers a maximum of two incidents per year with no deductible. Incidents are as follows (Refer to Device Maintenance Agreement Page 3):

- Accidental Damage (drops/spills)
- Cracked Screen (accidental)
- Fire / Flood
- Theft (police report must be submitted to the District)
- Liquid Submersion
- Power Surge
- Broken Keyboard/ Missing Keys
- Manufacturer's Defect / Hardware Failure

### **What does the fee not cover? (Refer to Device Maintenance Agreement Page 3)**

- 3+ Incidents per year
- Intentional Damage / Vandalism / Negligence / Carelessness
- Lost Equipment that you are responsible for securing

### **Do I need to pay the \$50 if my child will not take the Chromebook out of school?**

No you don't. Just keep in mind this \$50 fee protects you. If a parent/student opts out of the \$50 fee they are risking the fact that if the student's Chromebook is damaged during the daytime inside the building (i.e. falls of a desk) they could be charged for the cost of the repair.

### **If I Opt out can the student take the device home?**

Yes, but you are risking damage to the device during transit to / from school as well as risking it could get lost / stolen.

### **Will the school supply a cover / carry case?**

No, Students are to supply their own covers or carrying cases. Information was distributed in the summer supply lists. We do urge you to purchase a strong cover for your child's Chromebook. The better covers have a better chance of protect the device from some mishaps.

### **Does the fee cover a total replacement of the Chromebook (rather than repair) if the extent of the damage warrants it?**

Yes, if the repair falls under the covered incidents the District may choose replace the Chromebook rather than repair it. In the event it is replaced the student will be re-assigned a new Chromebook.

**What happens when I pay the fee and the Chromebook is under repair?**

The student will be assigned a loaner Chromebook that they can use and take home until their assigned Chromebook is repaired. Once repair is completed their assigned Chromebook will be returned to them.

**Will my student have the same Chromebook for three years (assuming it is not replaced due to damage)?**

Yes. The serial number will be recorded and the device will be assigned solely to your child. But the beauty of this program is that every third year you shield will have a new system.

**Will this be the device on which the students take NJSLA and other mandatory testing ?**

Yes. NJSLA testing requires a specific app on the Chromebook to be utilized in “KIOSK” mode. The District’s Mobile Device Management software will deploy this app automatically.

**Is the Chromebook Usage Tracked and/or Filtered?**

Yes. The District’s Mobile Device Management software does log usage as well as provide Off Campus Filtering. The District ***will not*** remotely view the device’s screen or activate any audio/video features on the device (cameras and microphones). (Refer to Device Maintenance Agreement Page 4)

**Can Students Play Games with the Chromebook?**

Chromebook and the Chrome OS device is not supported by many online games and others do not run due to the lack of memory in the video processor to draw the graphics of online gaming. In addition to the hardware limitations the District is providing the Chromebooks to be used for activities like accessing on-line textbooks, accessing to our classroom management systems, and working individually or collaboratively using google docs which are all relevant to the classroom curriculum. All that said, if on-line gaming portals can be used on a Chromebook then your son/daughter can access those sites when connected to Wi-Fi. In school, our filtering system blocks many of the most popular student gaming sites. (Refer to Device Maintenance Agreement Page 3 and 4)