

Memorandum: YK PAO BYOD Program
Authored by: Anthony DePrato
Date: November 1st, 2013

As many of you know, YK PAO provides students with laptops and iPads via a classroom assigned laptop carts. YK PAO will continue to do this in the future to ensure that IT resources are readily available.

Moving forward YK PAO Educational Technology Department is also going to encourage and promote the use of personal laptops on-campus.

Here are some reasons that using a personal laptop is often an advantage:

1. Students waste less time when using their own laptops. If a student uses a YK PAO Laptop, the laptop has to be started, and the student must login to the school network. Because YK PAO owns these laptops, a PROFILE is created on the machine. This process can take from 2-10 minutes depending on a number of circumstances. Students using their own laptops simply login to the WiFi, and they are ready to work.
2. Students lose their work when transporting it back-and-forth to school on USB devices. This year alone we have found around 100 USB devices that students have lost. These largely go unclaimed. In addition, USB devices often become corrupt and retrieving the information is difficult. If a student works on their own laptop, they will have their work with them at all times.
3. Students have their own media, resources, and software and they often prefer to use it. YK PAO is well resourced, but we do not have programs such as Photoshop, available on all the laptops. Our licensing covers over 200 machines, but we have limits. Students often have their own tools and solutions at the ready, when using their own equipment.
4. Students can INSTALL whatever they want on their own laptops. Often teachers will find something new to use in class. If it requires a software addition or update, the YK PAO IT Department has to install the update. This often means that the lesson is delayed or even postponed. If a student has their own laptop, they can install whatever they need to, and whenever the need it.
5. Students can use their laptop all-day and whenever they need them. YK PAO provides laptops on a class basis. So if a teacher does not reserve a laptop cart for their class, then students have to work in an IT lab or the library. If a student has their laptop with them, they will have the FREEDOM to work when they want, and with permission, where they want.

In order to help promote this, YK PAO is making the following changes for the upcoming school year:

The login process is going to be changed so that students no longer have to manually set their PROXY. This also will make it easier for Ipad Touches, Ipad, Tablets, and other portable devices to be used.

Multimedia such as streaming video and podcasts will be allowed on a broad scale so students can take advantage of YK PAO resources such as our vast digital library collection.

Student bandwidth will be significantly increased to all for a better user experience.

More areas will be created to allow students to work with their equipment, while also providing easy access to power.

Additional training and support will be given to students on how to take advantage of online storage and document management. This will be part of a continued effort to help students keep back-up copies of all their work.

The YK PAO Educational Technology Department and the Secondary School Administration are looking forward to a campus that is empowered by students, and has a structure that allows them to work freely and efficiently. We ask all parents and students reading this to consider helping us promote the use of personal laptops on-campus for the 2014 school year.

Student Laptop Requirements

If you already own an Apple laptop please answer the following questions:

1. My laptop is not older than 3 years, or was purchased during or after 2010.
2. My laptop has at least 2GB of RAM.
3. My laptop has a 3 to 4 hour battery life.
4. My laptop has working Wifi.

If you answered 'YES' to all these questions you do NOT need a new laptop. You DO need an inexpensive set of headphones, however.

If you need to buy a laptop here are the minimum requirements if you are buying a new computer:

Macbook Pro 13 inches: 2.5 GHz

Technical Specifications

- 2.5GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 processor
- Turbo Boost up to 3.1GHz
- 4GB 1600MHz Memory
- 500GB 5400-rpm hard drive
- Intel HD Graphics 4000
- Built-in battery (7 hours)
-

Required Accessories

- a cheap set of headphones

Macbook Air 11 inches: 128GB

Technical Specifications

- 1.3GHz dual-core Intel Core i5 processor
- Turbo Boost up to 2.6GHz

- Intel HD Graphics 5000
- 4GB memory
- 128GB flash ^a

Required Accessories

- A cheap set of headphones
- ethernet adaptor