SAU #13 - Freedom, Madison & Tamworth Schools

Frequently Asked Questions About Our Digital Learning Initiative
August 2014

1) What is the purpose of the Digital Learning Initiative?

The purpose is to provide all of our students and teachers with digital technology to be used in daily instruction.

2) What is the goal of the Digital Learning Initiative?

The goal is to teach our students to use advanced 21st Century technology skills in order to be well prepared middle-high school students, college and career ready, and productive employees in a competitive global economy.

3) What technology is used?

The technology is specifically designed for schools. Teachers will use "CLOUD" computing to store, organize, access, and present digital curriculum, lessons, and instructional materials to their students.

All students will be assigned a KUNO tablet to use during various instructional times at school and when at home as determined by their teachers. The KUNO tablet is a 10" Android hardware computing device. Students will be trained in the use and care of the KUNO tablet.

Students will access digital education information approved by the school administration. The information students receive will be "pushed-down" to them from the "CLOUD" by their teachers. For example, teachers will give students classroom materials, reading assignments, individualized work, and homework to complete in class and at home. This allows students who do not have access to the Internet at home to use technology to learn. Students who do have access to the Internet at home or in community locations can only go to Internet sites available through the school to complete their educational research.

4) What safeguards are in place to protect students from accessing inappropriate materials?

The technology used complies with the federal law known as the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA). The school's "CLOUD" and KUNO tablets have web filters built into their cores. This is designed to protect students from accessing inappropriate content. Students must access the school's CIPA compliant technology regardless of where the KUNO tablet is used. However, due to the rapidly changing nature of technology we cannot absolutely prevent student access to inappropriate sites. For further information about this topic please contact the Schools Principal and refer to the Acceptable Use Agreement found on the School's web site.

5) Why is the student taking a KUNO tablet home?

Like textbooks, the KUNO tablet is an investment approved by the school board for the educational benefit of our students. Students should be able to access this investment at school and home. Teachers will determine the frequency of KUNO tablet use, when it will be sent home, and what learning activities will be completed with it.

6) What if a student accidentally breaks or loses the tablet?

The KUNO tablet is specifically designed with travel between school and home in mind. The KUNO tablet is highly durable. The breakage rate is approximately 2%. In the event that the tablet is damaged or lost, it will be addressed in the same manner as the school does for damaged or lost textbooks. If stolen, a thief cannot use the KUNO tablet because it will be disabled by the school administration.

7) Is there a camera on the KUNO tablet?

Yes. However, teachers will only activate the camera when they want it to be used by their students. The school cannot use the camera to "spy" on students in school or students and parents when the KUNO tablet is used at home.

8) How will parents/guardians be involved in the Digital Learning Initiative?

The parent/guardian is encouraged to access their child's schoolwork on the KUNO tablet when it is at home. The parent/guardian is encouraged to contact their child's teachers to find ways to engage in their child's learning.

For more information please contact the school Principal.