



## Department of Teaching & Learning

To: Members of the Board of Education  
Dr. Frank Harwood, Superintendent of Schools  
From: Dr. Joseph Kelly, Rachel Mikel, and Brandon Riffel  
Date: January 4, 2023  
Subject: **Secondary Student and Teacher Technology Refresh (ACTION)**

We will seek approval from the Board of Education to refresh technology devices (computers) used by secondary students and all teachers, as we are in year four of the current deployment. The recommendation to refresh devices is part of the district's long term plan to support the ongoing use of technology in the learning process through a multi-year rotation that maximizes residual value of current devices.

### Background

During the 2018-2019 school year, the Curriculum and Instruction Department and Technology Department recommended the purchase of devices to the Board of Education for the One Device per Learner initiative. As you may recall, MacBook Air computers were recommended for students in grades 6 through 12 and all teachers PK-12. The recommendation from four years ago was based on teacher feedback and a piloting process.

During the initial pilot process in the 2018-2019 school year, participating teachers in grades 6 through 8 rated iPads as highly, or higher, than the MacBook Air with regards to district [technology standards](#) 2.3, 4.1, 4.3, 4.5, and 4.6. Also, since then, many iPads had been distributed to middle school teachers, and updates have been made to its operating system and accessories. Consequently, both the Curriculum and Instruction and Technology departments made the decision to conduct a pilot of iPad devices at each of the middle schools during first semester of the current year. Select grade level teams (recommended by building leaders), as well as elective teachers who agreed to participate, had the opportunity to pilot iPads with students.

Following the current pilot of iPads, we issued a survey to all middle school teachers. Eighty-nine teachers participated in the survey, with 63% of middle school teacher respondents feeling as if the district should continue using the MacBook Air as the primary student device, 21% of respondents feeling as if the district should continue to explore the use of iPads through an extended pilot, and 16% of respondents feeling as if the district should adopt iPads for use during the 2023-2024 School Year.

The district would like to recognize the efforts of our pilot teachers for providing valuable insights into both the advantages and drawbacks to using each device in the classroom through this research process. We would also like to extend our thanks to staff who provided constructive feedback, which will be used to guide continuous improvement in the district.

### Recommendation

Looking ahead to the 2023-2024 school year, we ask the Board to approve the refresh of technology devices for students and support staff at the secondary level and all teachers PK-12. Based on feedback from our teaching and administrative staff, we recommend the use of MacBook Airs for grades 6 through 12 over the next four years.

The district received a quote from Apple Computer Inc. to provide 5,300 MacBook Air computers, including protective cases and four year AppleCare+, for **\$1,072.95** per unit.

### 2023 Apple Quotation

Product Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Price
MacBook Air, 13-inch, M1 chip, 256GB	\$ 879	5,300	\$4,658,700
4 Year AppleCare+	\$ 149	5,300	\$ 789,700
Brenthaven protective case	\$ 44.95	5,300	\$ 238,235
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,686,635</b>

The expense would be divided into four annual payments under a lease-to-own agreement, and be paid for with capital outlay funds. The purchase meets the state requirements for competitive bidding through a state purchasing contract Apple has with Kansas.

### Comparison to 2019

The unit price the district paid for the MacBook Air in 2019, including three year AppleCare+ and protective cases, was \$901.95. The current quotation from Apple provides new devices with more memory/storage (256GB versus 128GB), faster processing, and **four** years of AppleCare+ versus three years. The devices are \$171 more per unit compared to 2019.

### Professional Learning Services

In addition to refreshing devices at the secondary level, the district desires to take advantage of Apple's professional learning for classroom educators over the course of four years. The professional learning services will aid the district in helping teachers use this technology effectively and creatively. As of the submission of this written report, the district continues to work with Apple on pricing for onsite professional learning. We anticipate the cost of learning services to be approximately \$119,215, which includes 60 days of onsite professional development for staff over the course of four years.

### Residual Value of Existing Devices

The total cost of new devices will be reduced thanks to the residual value of the existing MacBook computers to be replaced. We anticipate, through conservative estimates, the value of existing devices (5,215 units) to be approximately \$521,500 – which will offset the cost of new devices. We will come back to the Board of Education later in the year with additional information about recycling existing devices and expected monetary value to the district through that process.

### Deployment of New Devices

If the recommendation to refresh devices is approved by the Board of Education, we expect to have laptops available for students and staff for the start of the 2023-24 school year. Additionally, we will identify options for the necessary services to provide receiving logistics to prepare the 5,300 new devices

for deployment. More information about this process will come to the Board of Education later in the semester.

**Summary**

We ask the Board to approve the purchase of 5,300 MacBook Air devices, including protective cases and AppleCare+, from Apple Computer Inc., in the amount of \$5,686,635. We also recommend the purchase of Apple professional learning services for educators for \$119,215, for a total cost of \$5,805,850. This amount will be offset by the residual value of existing devices. If approved, the district will purchase Apple devices directly from Apple. This is the only vendor of new Apple devices for educational institutions.

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