

Stroud Public Schools

"Home of The Tigers"

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Joe L. Van Tassel
Superintendent

February 7, 2022

Dear School Patrons:

Now that we are approaching two years into this process of virtual learning and options above and beyond what many thought was possible in March of 2020, we have learned many things along the way.

Here is some factual information as to how we operate, where we are currently, and some tips to help you and your student when it comes to technology.

Each student in our system is provided with a Chromebook, charger, and bag (and for the younger grades, headsets). Students also have the option to get a hotspot for internet access upon request.

When there is an issue with a Chromebook, it is reported to the building office, and a new one is requested. We drop off a working one, pick up the Chromebook that needs work, and it is logged in and sent for repairs. Those repairs are then assessed and passed on to the parent based on the damage done. These repairs range from \$30 up to \$310 if a device is ruined. Other expenses could also be incurred.

Here are some common issues to talk to your student about that will help:

- Always put the device in a bag when transporting.
- Unplug the headphones when putting device in the bag
- Never shove the headphone jack into the headphone port. If it's not working
DON'T PUSH HARDER.
 - Headphone port damage is the #1 cause of a device to be ruined as it directly affects the Motherboard.

- Don't have open drinks out near the Chromebook. Liquid damage is the #2 cause of a dead device.
- Pressure on a closed Chromebook causes screen damage. Don't stack things on top of it, and be careful getting in and out of the car.
- Don't leave it on the charger when it's at 100% battery. Let it get below 50%, then charge back to 100% and remove from the charger.
- Avoid extreme temperatures in a vehicle. Take it inside with you.

As we are in a new era of education, technology has become part of our students' daily lives. A device in 2022 is the Trapper Keeper and spiral notebook of the 1980's and 90's.

With that thought in mind, there are options outside of the school issued Chromebook which may work better for you and your family. Similar devices can be purchased from Amazon, Best Buy, Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, etc. for far less than the \$310 the school would charge for a dead Chromebook. It would be up to you to maintain your own device. The bottom line is the student will need internet access and a device to do assignments. A note of explanation is we determine replacement costs on items based on what the school's cost is for replacement; there is no upcharge as this is just how the expenses are provided to the school.

One final thought is that, in this day and age, it is imperative that each student be diligent in checking their email as well as checking into their Google Classrooms.

We have made great progress in our model and we continue to look for ways to improve. We appreciate your support in this effort.

Have great days,

Joe L. Van Tuyl
Superintendent

Bob Hoover
Middle School Principal

Chris Elerick
Special Projects Director

Scott Baade
High School Principal

James Wells
Parkview Principal

Jim Campbell
Dean of Students