

Hello Everyone. Tomorrow, Monday, August 31, the Mohawk Trail Staff begin meetings and professional development to continue to prepare for the start of the school year. As previously shared, the first day for students is Wednesday, September 16.

Please be on the lookout for information as we solidify plans for the start of school. The main purpose of this post is to give a technology update.

All students enrolled in kindergarten, first and second grade will receive an iPad to support remote learning. We feel like iPads are the best option for young remote learners. Students enrolled in grades three, four, five and six will receive a Chromebook. In the spring, our goal was to have each family have at least one device. As we start school this fall, each student will receive a device so more than one child can be working at a time.

We know that some homes still do not have Internet. Our technology department is working with families to see if there are any options that may not have been previously researched. This may include removing data caps, installing equipment or trying to move installation dates higher on the priority list. If an Internet connection is not possible, we are working to create hubs for students/families inside schools/town buildings. We do not want students sitting in cars to attend class meetings and/or complete work.

As you can imagine there are a lot of moving parts to all of this planning. And with so many moving parts, there are likely to be glitches. One significant challenge is the availability of devices. Although devices were ordered well in advance of the start of school, manufacturers are not able to keep up with the requests as many schools across the country are applying similar remote learning plans. **So, we are asking for your help.** In order to get all students participating in learning at the start of school, we are requesting that if you have a personal device that your child can use until orders arrive it would be extremely helpful. We are hopeful that new devices will be distributed by the end of September.

Your child's classroom teacher will be reaching out to you this week to set up an Intake Meeting time. Intake meetings are a chance for families and staff to get to know each other. In addition to setting up a meeting time, teachers will be asking some questions about device and Internet needs. If you are able to give back a school Chromebook or can hold off receiving one, please let the teacher know.

Thank you for taking the time to read this post. I will send more information this week. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you have.

Best,
Emma