



RLS 1:1 CHROMEBOOK PROGRAM

All students enrolled in grades **6 through 12** will be required to have a **SCHOOL USE ONLY**

Chromebook laptop device of their own to use at school on a daily basis. The device will be owned by the student's family and are taken home daily to continue learning outside the classroom.

The purpose of the Rockford Lutheran School (RLS) 1:1 Chromebook program is to help prepare students for success in a global, technology-rich learning and working environment. As we navigate the 21st century, excellence in education requires that technology is seamlessly integrated throughout the educational program. The 1:1 Chromebooks provide an additional learning tool that will increase access to technology, which is essential for the future. The individual use of technology is a way to empower students to learn at their full potential and to prepare them for the real world of college and the workplace. It will also provide opportunities for differentiated and personalized learning. One-to-one devices encourage students to solve problems and think critically by stimulating analytical thinking. Technology and 1:1 Chromebooks do not take the place of our teachers, but adds additional resources to be used in the instructional setting and provide excellence in education.


The Chromebooks are used as a learning tool across all subject areas. The use of a variety of apps and Internet resources along with our learning management system (LMS) Canvas, allows students to digitally communicate, collaborate, and create in and out of the classroom. Students are using the Chromebooks to create and publish original work, practice specific skills, research curriculum topics, and explore their own interests.

Chromebook Program Features

- All students work through RLS's own Google domain, which has filtering safeguards.
- Google does not access data stored on RLS's Google Drive unless authorized by the school.
- The Chromebooks operate in a technology environment similar to what is used in college and in the workplace.
- With a one-to-one program, students have increased access to technology and the opportunity to work collaboratively with teachers and classmates.
- Student work is saved on a Google Drive in the cloud, which makes it accessible from any computer with an Internet connection. No additional software is required.
- Parents can access their child's work and view content by using their child's
- Chromebooks are an Internet-enabled device. Internet connectivity is provided for all students on campus but outside access will require parent provided Internet connectivity and access.
- Teachers receive professional development throughout each school year to develop their knowledge and skills in relation to technology usage in the classroom.

- All software and apps on the device will be installed and managed wirelessly through the RLS. Students will not be able to install additional apps on their 1:1 Device.

Student Chromebooks may be purchased through any vendor:

We require that the Chromebook units are clearly marked with a symbol  to identify them as being fully Chrome OS compliant and certified. Refurbished devices are often economical choices for student use, but to ensure compatibility with the latest ChromeOS version and software used by Rockford Lutheran we strongly suggest that Chromebook devices selected be manufactured within the last 4 years.

Our suggestions for specifications are:

- RAM: 4 GB minimum (4+ GB strongly recommended)
- Storage: 16+GB
- Graphics: HD size and resolution screen
- Case: durable (NOTE: 2-in-1 and rotating screen designs are much more fragile)
- Processor: 64-bit Intel or AMD processor, processor generation and speed impact price

All Chromebooks that are added to the Rockford Lutheran domain MUST be added from a factory setting. This will involve a reset of your current Chromebook. This is why it is required that Chromebooks be for **school use only**.

Frequently Asked Questions About Chromebooks

What is a Chromebook?

- o A Chromebook is a small laptop specifically designed to access the Internet.
- o It runs on the Chrome operating system, which resembles the Google Chrome Internet browser.
- o Through RLS's use of the Google Suite, Chromebooks utilize Internet resources, specialized apps, and software for documents, spreadsheets, and presentations similar to Microsoft Office.

What are the fees for the Chromebook program?

- o The family must purchase and provide the Chromebook device, which vary widely in price depending on features, size and condition (new or refurbished).
- o Support for the Chromebook program and related network and IT support is included in the annual enrichment fee for all students.
- o A Google Domain License is required for each student Chromebook device. NOTE: Google no longer allows Domain licenses to be transferrable between devices. Therefore, the domain license fee of \$35.00 (current for 2023-24 school year) applies to each Chromebook used by the student, including any future replacement devices.

Does this mean students will not write with a pen or pencil anymore?

- o No, students will still use paper and pencil. They will just spend an increased amount of time typing, which will help them improve their keyboarding skills.
- o One of the goals of the one-to-one Chromebook program would be to reduce paper usage within the school, thus helping us be good stewards of God's creation.

Will my child be learning different curriculum?

- o No, the curriculum and standards taught will be the same across the grade level. Chromebooks are a tool that will be used to deliver the curriculum.
- o The use of Chromebooks will allow for more differentiated and personalized learning opportunities.

How will you promote good digital citizenship?

- o At the start of each year, students will have lessons on good digital citizenship and what it means to be a good digital citizen. They will also be reminded of key concepts of it throughout the year as different class activities warrant.
- o Students and parents will sign an acceptable use policy at the start of each school year, acknowledging that they know and understand the technology policies of RLS.
- o A discipline system is in place to deal with students who are not meeting the acceptable use standards.

Will information about my child be stored or shared on the Internet?

- o No, all students are registered with only a username and password. Any content put into Google Apps is safe from other organizations and is fully owned by RLS.

Please contact Mick Magnuson, IT Manager if you have any questions or concerns.
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