MyTech Overview and FAQ for Parent Engagement

Pre-summer communications
- [Overview deck](#) (English)
- [What is MyTech](#)
- [What do parents need to know/ program expectations?](#)
  - [Right now](#)
  - [Summer](#)
  - [21-22 school year](#)
- [Frequently asked questions](#)
  - [Why do we need Chromebooks if we're returning to in-person learning?](#)
  - [What should I do if the computer stops working?](#)
  - [Why are you sending the devices home (during the summer and school year)?](#)

What is MyTech?

- MyTech is a DPS program focused on making sure every student has access to a computer and the Internet
- Access to technology is a fundamental right and learning necessity today
- Our aim is for every student to graduate digitally literate, with the ability to use technology and the Internet
- Every student will have access to the tools they need to learn
- In addition, teachers are given support to meet students' needs today and tomorrow

What do we (as parents) need to know?

Right now

- First of all, thank you, DPS parents, for supporting your students with remote learning during the pandemic.
- This school year has been difficult in so many ways. We are so thankful for your commitment to helping students navigate the virtual classroom
- We could not have done this without you

Summer

- With summer approaching and planning for our next school year underway, there are a few important things to keep in mind:
  - First, students should keep their Chromebooks over the summer so they can continue to learn and access resources like Sora, which is our online library.
  - However, if your student is graduating, transferring to a charter school or otherwise leaving the district, you must return their computer prior to un-enrollling
  - If you do not return the computer that was checked out to your student, you will owe 250 dollars
  - Your school may have additional instructions for using devices over the summer, so please stay tuned for related communications
  - Here are a few helpful tips for your student's technology use in the meantime:
    - Be sure your student still has Internet access (at home or another safe location) so they can access educational tools and resources.
    - Please be kind to the computer.
      - Store the computer and charger in a safe place, when it's not in use.
      - Help your student take care when using the device, including avoiding contact with liquids and minimizing risks for falls or drops, which could damage the machine.
      - Do not close the computer with any items inside (e.g. pencil). This can break the screen.
    - Practice good habits now. Consider having your student charge the computer every night in a safe place (outside of the bedroom). This will help them prepare for the coming school year.
    - If you have a DPS computer that needs to be fixed over the summer, please contact your current school (the primary school you attended for the 20-21 school year)
    - Finally, you do not need to purchase a device for your student for the 21-22 school year

21-22 school year

- If you have a student that will be in grades 6 through 12 starting in the fall, they will be included in the district's MyTech program
- That means they will have access to a district computer, to use in school and at home.
- Your student will also have options for home internet access, if needed
- When you register your student this year, be sure to review the Device Agreement form carefully so you'll know details about the program and expectations for participating
- At the start of school, please be sure your student returns their current DPS computer and charger
- If you have a district hotspot that you no longer need, please be sure to return that as well, along with the charger
  - If you still need the hotspot, it will remain active and checked out to your student

- All 6-12 grade students will receive a new computer after they've returned their current computer
- We are still working on plans to ensure all K-5 students will have access to a computer as well

Frequently Asked Questions

Here are some of popular questions we've heard about MyTech:

Why do we need Chromebooks if we're returning to in-person learning?

- Technology is essential for learning. Access to technology is a fundamental right and part of today's educational environment
- Remote learning during the pandemic response resulted in an instructional paradigm shift that accelerated our integration of technology in how we teach and learn.
- We are continuing use of technology for all K-12 students.

What should I do if the computer stops working?

Accidents happen. And sometimes our computers just stop working because of a defect. If your computer isn't working, be sure to bring it to school and swap out for a working device so you don't miss out on education experiences in school or at home. Contacting your school first is the fastest way to get a working computer.

It's important to remember that damage could result in a fee:
- Accidental damage may result in a $25 fee.
- Intentional damage will be invoiced for the cost of repair/replacement - anywhere between $25 to $250.
- Any changes to these fees will be managed by the school's leaders.

Why are you sending the devices home (during the summer and school year)?

- Access to technology and the internet is a fundamental right in school, and at home.
- Learning happens all of the time, not just during the school day. We want to ensure students have every opportunity to use the device to extend their learning, access the information they need, and be able to create/prepare for the future they will inherit as adults.