Maggie L. Walker Governor's School

MWtech

BYOD Guide

Welcome, Dragons!

Your acceptance into Maggie L. Walker Governor's School (MLWGS) is an exciting time in your academic path. As our school is a 'Bring Your Own Device' (BYOD) campus, MWtech would like to provide some basic guidelines regarding device configuration and type to assist you in selecting a learning tool for the next four years. Should you have concerns or questions after reviewing this information, please contact the technology office.

While at MLWGS, students will be provided with accounts for Google Drive (cloud storage and applications), Microsoft Office 365 (school email and applications), PowerSchool (Student Information System (SIS) – grades, attendance, records), and Schoology (Learning Management System (LMS) – courses, activity and athletic groups, resources). All of the applications are cloud based, meaning that you need an Internet connection to access them from any location, and on any device.

Current students utilize various devices and types in our BYOD environment; it is really a matter of personal preference. *While neither the MWtech office nor the school officially endorses any device make or model, each of the following has features you may find advantageous to your situation.

A list of features for Chromebooks, Apple and Windows computers can be found below:

- Chromebook devices:

• Long battery life	• Antivirus included in Google OS
• Lower-cost option	• Limited/No local storage
• Multiple manufacturers/models from which to select	• Cannot install full versions of most software applications
• Google Chrome Operating System (OS)	• Touch-screen options
• Easy sign-in, start up from the box	• OS updates quickly and frequently

- Apple devices:

• Higher cost option	• Apple Care option
• Apple Operating System (OS)	• Touch screen option not available for MacBooks
• Native full-version applications available out of the box, designed for Apple devices	• High residual value over time
• Options for local storage and memory	• Antivirus is a separate purchase

• Apple versions of Microsoft Office applications available	• Medium to long battery life
• OS updates can be large	

- Windows devices:

• Mid-high cost option	• Native full-version applications available out of the box, designed for Windows devices
• Windows Operating System (OS)	• Medium to long battery life
• Configuration options for local storage and memory	• Supports multiple web browsers and large list of full-version software
• OS updates can be large	• Antivirus is a separate purchase
• Multiple manufacturers/models from which to select	

In summary, any of the above will work in our environment; the choice is yours. Additionally, should you be in a position where you would benefit from either a school issued computer and/or Internet SmartSpot device for the academic year, please contact our office. We have a very limited supply of both, and will work with you to identify a solution.

Go Dragons!

At MLWGS, we provide multiple computer labs to facilitate instruction, standardized testing, course registration, and general student use on campus. The labs comprise Apple computers, Chromebooks, and Windows computers. All students have access to these resources.

MWTech | RM 114 | techsupport@gsgis.k12.va.us | (804) 354-6800 Extensions 1140 and 1141