



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

<https://www.chariho.k12.ri.us/1to1>

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1. **What is Chariho 1:1?** Answer: Chariho 1:1 is a program that will provide each student enrolled in grades five through twelve in the Chariho Regional School District working toward a Chariho Regional High School diploma with a school-issued personal computing device.
2. **Why does each student need a computing device?** Answer: The possibilities of technology as a tool to improve learning are limitless. Instead of scheduling time (in a computer lab or with a computer cart) to use technology, in a 1:1 environment, technology becomes totally embedded in the instructional process, allowing for instructional personalization. Further, our students need to practice and develop the technology skills that support learning and working in the 21st century. Our decision to equip each student with a computing device was inspired by members of the school community, including School Committee members, students, teachers, administrators, and parents who participated in 1:1 planning meetings.
3. **How is Chariho 1:1 aligned with the District mission?** Answer: The District mission calls for all students to meet high academic standards in preparation for lifelong learning and global citizenship. Armed with a personal computing device, teachers and students will benefit from all of the learning potential offered by the technology of today as well as that of the future. Further, Strategy #3 of the District's strategic plan calls for increased resources to provide the technological tools that will significantly and positively impact the quality of the educational program.
4. **How will instruction change in a 1:1 environment?** Answer: There will be a gradual shift to a blended and personalized classroom environment. Blended learning combines technology with face-to-face teaching. Further, students will have increasing ownership and flexibility in their learning. Instruction can be differentiated and personalized to increase instructional rigor for all students. However, technology will never replace all that an expert educator can offer.
5. **What is the Chariho definition of personalized learning?** Answer: Personalized learning, or *personalization*, refers to a diverse variety of educational programs, learning experiences, instructional approaches, and academic-support strategies that are intended to address the distinct learning needs, interests, aspirations, or cultural backgrounds of individual students. Personalized learning is generally seen as an alternative to so-called "one-size-fits-all" approaches to schooling in which teachers may, for example, provide all students in a given course with the same type of instruction, the same assignments, and the same assessments with little variation or modification from student to student. Personalized learning may also be called *student-centered learning*, since the general goal is to make individual learning needs the primary consideration in important educational and instructional decisions.
6. **How does providing a personal computing device improve outcomes?** Answer: Research has indicated that levels of student motivation and engagement increase. The issuance of a personal computing device allows for the use of technology to further personalize and tailor instruction. Additionally, in a 1:1 classroom, content is always current and dynamic. Research has also shown that paperwork is reduced, thus allowing more time for teacher planning, professional learning, and instruction. Student disciplinary issues are also reduced. In the end, when implemented properly, 1:1 initiatives improve learning outcomes, which lead to fewer failures, class repeats, drop-outs, and less college remediation. (Greaves,

T.; Hayes, J.; Wilson, L.; Gielniak, M.; & Peterson, R., The Technology Factor: Nine Keys to Student Achievement and Cost-Effectiveness, MDR 2010.)

7. **How will Chariho 1:1 be evaluated?** Answer: The Assistant Superintendent and Technology Fellows will facilitate the development of a comprehensive assessment strategy. Items to be studied will include (1) student performance, (2) student discipline and attendance, (3) student motivation and engagement, (4) personalization of instruction, (5) teacher and administrator assessment of outcome attainment, and (6) student and teacher satisfaction.
8. **Who advised the Superintendent in the development of Chariho 1:1?** Answer: The Superintendent was advised by a group of thirty-eight parents, students, educators, administrators and community members. In addition, schools and districts with experience in 1:1 implementation were consulted, studied, and visited. Current research was reviewed.
9. **Will personal computing devices replace textbooks?** Answer: Eventually, yes. In the normal textbook adoption rotation, paper textbooks will be replaced by electronic textbooks, as long as quality and curriculum-aligned electronic textbooks are available and it is financially advantageous to do so.
10. **Will the personal computing device be used in every classroom?** Answer: Not necessarily. We expect that usage will be significant and much greater than at present; however, it will rely on individual instructors, content appropriateness, and instructional strategies.
11. **Can a student opt out of using a personal computing device?** Answer: We want all students to participate. However, if there are extenuating circumstances, we will allow that the device be secured in school instead of taking it home. In very rare cases and with strong rationale, a student may not be required to use the school-issued device.
12. **Who owns the personal computing device issued?** Answer: All devices are owned by the Chariho Regional School District. Seniors may have the option to purchase the device they have been issued upon graduation.
13. **What if a student does not graduate or transfers?** Answer: Students issued a device who transfer out of a Chariho school or who drop-out of school prior to graduation must return the personal computing device at the time of withdrawal. Failure to do so will result in the involvement of law enforcement.
14. **What happens when a student transfers into a Chariho school?** Answer: Students who transfer into a grade where computing devices have been issued will be issued a device. The device will be issued after mandatory instruction occurs and after required forms are signed by students and parents.
15. **Will the laptop support external hardware (keyboard, mouse, etc.)?** Answer: Yes.
16. **Will students be able to bring the personal computing device home?** Answer: At the middle and high school level, students will be able to bring home the device that was issued to them. With books downloaded to devices, home access is critical. In the lower grades, the devices stay in school.
17. **Will Chariho provide internet access and wireless infrastructure at home?** Answer: No, the District will not provide these services. For those interested in reduced Internet rates, visit www.everyoneon.org.
18. **Can our infrastructure support 1:1 computing?** Answer: Yes, the wireless infrastructure in all of our schools has been upgraded with funding from the General Assembly.
19. **How will Internet safety be addressed?** Answer: The School Committee has adopted a Responsible Use of Technology Policy. This Policy will be reviewed with students and staff as a part of the implementation

of Chariho 1:1. Further, the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) requires Internet safety policies and technology that blocks or filters certain material from being accessed through the Internet. Internet safety and digital citizenship instruction is provided at all levels and a required component of the High School Graduation Portfolio.

20. **How will Internet usage be monitored from home?** Answer: The District’s filtering software will provide the same protections at home as at school. In addition, parents are encouraged to exercise their authority to restrict use. Examples include, but are not limited to the following: (1) Use is restricted to the family room and may not be used in the bedroom, (2) Use is restricted to certain times of the day, (3) Documents and sites visited may be randomly reviewed by parents, (4) Improper use will be brought to the attention of the administration. For more information on parenting in the digital age, visit www.common sense media.org.
21. **Has a personal computing device been selected for students?** Answer: Yes. The Device Selection Committee has recommended an Apple MacBook Air laptop for High School students and a Chromebook for Middle School students. In grades two, three and four classroom sets are allocated to each teacher at a ratio of one Chromebook for every two students. In Kindergarten and First grade, classroom sets of iPads are allocated to each teacher at a ratio of one iPad for every two students. For detailed information please visit <http://www.chariho.k12.ri.us/1to1>.
22. **What factors were considered in selecting a device?** Answer: Factors included (1) educational potential, (2) ease of use, (3) cost, (4) maintenance history, (5) compatibility with existing infrastructure, (6) ability to apply accommodations and (6) ruggedness. A complete listing of the criteria is available on the 1:1 site. Device selection committees will be formed whenever device selection decisions need to be made.
23. **Will students be penalized for not bringing 1:1 devices to school?** Answer: The expectation will continue to be that students are prepared for class. Being prepared will include bringing a charged personal computing device to class. Further, the existing Standards for Student Behavior will be applied when technology-related violations occur.
24. **Can parents use the school-issued device?** Answer: Yes, in accord with the Responsible Use of Technology Policy.
25. **Can parents and students download applications to the device?** Answer: Yes, in accord with the Responsible Use of Technology Policy. We want students to personalize the device; that is, to make use of it for personal reasons. Since the device will be school-issued and its primary function will be educational, there will be grade-appropriate restrictions on the personal use of the device. Of course, parents can impose their own restrictions.
26. **How will the district choose applications:** Answer: The district has formed a CIPA-App Committee to be sure that the educational applications that we use are aligned with our curriculum and are of good quality. Teachers and administrators are an integral part of the app selection process. This Committee is also charged with implementation of the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA).
27. **What factors were considered for students with disabilities?** Answer: It is important that the device be able to apply accommodations. For example, the use of voice-to-text applications will be important for some students. The concept of accommodations was a consideration when devices were chosen. An Assistive Technology Coordinator who supports this effort is employed by the District.
28. **What steps will be taken to train teachers and support staff?** Answer: A comprehensive professional learning strategy has been developed. Further, two Academic Fellow positions have been established to focus on Chariho 1:1 implementation and professional learning. Nearly \$80,000 has been received by the District in the form of a grant from the RI Foundation to support teacher training. Further, a Help Desk,

staffed by Apple-certified and Dell technicians and student interns, has been established at both the Middle School and High School.

29. **How will Chariho 1:1 be funded?** Answer: With the exception of infrastructure upgrades, Chariho 1:1 will be funded through the operating budget. There will be shifts within the budget (i.e., paper textbooks to electronic textbooks) and the need to prioritize expenditures. Periodic sales of student and adult laptops will generate revenue for the district.
30. **How much will this cost?** Answer: Costs will depend on financing terms for MacBook Airs, and Dell Chromebooks. Future costs were reduced due to the switch to the Chromebook at the Middle School level. In FY14, FY15, FY16, FY17, FY18 and FY19, the Superintendent proposed operating budgets that funded the purchase of personal computing devices for teachers and students. Current expenditures for personal computing devices can be found in the FY20 budget at <http://www.chariho.k12.ri.us/budget>.
31. **Will training be available to parents and students?** Answer: The Chariho 1:1 implementation plan calls for mandatory training for parents and students prior to the distribution of devices.
32. **What happens if a personal computing device is broken?** Answer: With Apple-certified and Dell-certified technicians on staff, many repairs will be performed in-house. If students follow the Expectations for Care of Chromebook/Macbook, the device will be repaired without charge. If students do not follow the Expectations for Care of Chromebook/MacBook, the family will be held financially responsible. In the event of the need to repair or replace a device, a loaner (if available) will be issued. Optional annual insurance is available to students issued MacBook Air devices.
33. **To whom should damage, theft, or other problems be reported?** Answer: Damage and theft should be reported to the Help Desks, which are located in the High School and Middle School Libraries. Theft occurring outside of normal school hours must be immediately reported to the local police immediately. After filing a report to the police, the offense number must be supplied at the Help Desk.
34. **Who pays for repairs to the device?** Answer: When students are following the Expectations for Care of Laptop, the laptop will be repaired without charge (see #32).
35. **Which operating system is currently in use?** Answer: Currently, the district uses Windows, Chrome, and Apple products. As we have investigated various devices, we have learned that these three platforms can be supported within our current infrastructure.
36. **Which grades will receive devices?** Answer: Students in grades five through twelve will receive devices. The District technology plan calls for additional devices at the elementary level, but not at a 1:1 ratio.
37. **Will new staff be required for the technology department?** Answer: Yes. A third technician was hired during the 2013-2014 school year. This position would have been needed regardless of the implementation of Chariho 1:1. An additional .5 technician was hired in 2016-2017. Two Academic Technology Fellows are currently in place to support professional development and strategic planning.
38. **What is a Learning Management System (LMS)?** Answer: A LMS is a digital tool that allows students and teachers to communicate about courses of study. The LMS is an electronic 'place' where assignments are posted and submitted; lesson content in the form of text, video, picture, etc. is disseminated; and students and teachers can interact.
39. **Has a LMS been selected?** Answer: Yes. Following a review by a committee of teachers looking for the best possible LMS that integrates with PowerSchool, Canvas has been identified as the finest LMS for Chariho High School. Lower grades use Google Classroom which has been found to be more appropriate at those levels.

40. **Is Chariho 1:1 reliant upon at-home Internet access?** Answer: No. Chariho will purchase electronic textbooks that can be 'housed' on or downloaded to the personal computing device. Settings can be changed to work in offline mode. Students will have the ability to access most content at home. Advisory time and extended library hours are also available to students with limited access to wifi. Additionally EveryoneOn.org is a program that provides low cost internet service to those in need. Help desk technicians and Technology Academic Fellows are available to help parents and students with personalized solutions.
41. **Will parents incur costs associated with the personal computing device?** Answer: There will be no mandatory costs for parents Optional insurance is available for the MacBook Airs. Parents may opt to purchase a protective case or bag for the device issued to their child.
42. **Will students be allowed to use their own device?** Answer: A device will be issued to all students. Since we will be centrally providing electronic resources, textbooks, and filtration, our system will work best and be most efficient and successful if delivery is to the same device.
43. **How can I help with the Chariho 1:1 initiative?** Answer: A number of committees will be formed, as decisions need to be made. Given the nature of technology and the need to adapt quickly to changes, assistance will be needed from students, parents, and community members. Send an email to the Superintendent to volunteer. Students entering grades eleven and twelve are also encouraged to apply for 1:1 Help Desk Internship placement.
44. **What happens when a device needs to be charged?** Answer: It will be expected that students arrive to school each day with a fully charged device. Chargers may be borrowed from the High school library, if necessary. Charging access will be available in classrooms. Chromebooks may be charged at the help desk in the Middle school.
45. **When will students receive MacBook Air laptops and Dell Chromebooks?** Answer: Devices are distributed in the summer or early in the school year. Detailed information is mailed out to parents in the spring (see #54) and will be issued to all new students as they are enrolled. Questions can be directed to the Technology Department (401-364-1163).
46. **What will the device distribution entail?** Answer: Students and parents must attend an orientation session. Training and a policy review will be provided during the session. Also, signatures will be required indicating acceptance of the terms governing use. Documents are available for review on the 1:1 site.
47. **Who receives a device?** Answer: Only students enrolled in Chariho Regional Middle School, Chariho Regional High School and the Chariho Alternative Learning Academy who are working toward earning a Chariho Regional High School diploma will receive a device.
48. **May the device be left at school?** Answer: Yes, although this is not recommended. The device will be needed for textbooks, homework, and studying. In extenuating circumstances, arrangements can be made to leave the device in a secure location at school.
49. **What supports and training will be provided to students?** Answer: Students will receive direct instruction on digital literacy to support responsible and effective use of technology.
50. **Are home schooled students provided with a device?** Answer: No. These students are not working toward a Chariho Regional High School Diploma.
51. **Will students keep their devices over the summer?** Answer: Yes. At the end of May, a letter will be sent to all families with specific instructions.

52. **What insurance is available to parents?** Answer: The District-works with Worth Ave. Group to provide optional insurance for MacBooks. The open enrollment period is in September. New students who enroll at the High School after the September deadline may participate. However, the cost of the insurance will be prorated on a monthly basis. Questions can be directed to the Technology Department (401-364-1163).
53. **With which documents should I become most familiar?** Answer: All documents related to the 1:1 Initiative can be found at <http://www.chariho.k12.ri.us/1to1>. It is critical that students and parents read and understand the Responsible Use of Technology Policy and the Expectations for Care of Laptop.
54. **Do students have access to Google Apps for Education (GAFE)?** Yes. Students in grades two through twelve are issued Google accounts to access GAFE. Students have varied access to apps and email based on their grade level.
55. **How do students and teachers use Google Apps for Education (GAFE)?** Google tools are compatible with Canvas LMS and are the foundation for Google Classroom. GAFE supports web-based productivity, creation, and communication. Some frequently used features include mail, calendar, drive (docs, sheets, slides, forms, drawings), sites, and Google Classroom. These tools have been integral in our goals of personalized and timely feedback and collaboration.