

Onslow County Schools

Board of Education

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July 17, 2014

Parents or Guardians of Rising 7th – 9th Grade Students:

The Onslow County School System is excited to announce that we will expand our vision of *Excellence in Education* by transforming the way we deliver instruction in our district through a sustainable 1:1 laptop initiative. Entitled “The Learning Advantage,” this initiative will provide opportunities for personalized student learning and technology-rich classrooms.

Progressive school systems like Onslow County have been setting high expectations for technology integration in our classrooms over the past decade, and we must be prepared for the new methods associated with these expectations. Having technology-rich classrooms with high levels of student engagement in 21st Century learning is not a luxury.

With “The Learning Advantage,” we are excited to be deploying Dell laptops for our students in grades 7, 8 and 9 during the 2014-2015 school year. Students will be allowed to take the laptops home each day throughout the school year. At the end of the school year, the devices will be collected for maintenance purposes, and then will be reissued the following fall.

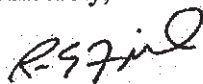
In order to help sustain the technology investment being made by our district, the Onslow County School System will implement an insurance assessment of \$25 for the 2014-2015 school year. This insurance assessment will help assist the district with costs associated with supporting the devices, as well as any accidental damages. The insurance assessment does not cover theft, non-accidental damage, or loss while off school campus. Hardship waivers will be available for families requiring assistance with this nominal charge.

The decision made by our district to provide Dell laptops to our students is a bold and courageous affirmation of support for our vision of Excellence in Education for our students and teachers. It also confirms our core value that student learning is a top priority in our district.

We are excited about the opportunity for your child to use this new technology during the 2014-2015 school year and beyond! You will receive more information from your child’s school regarding the fall deployment event.

For more information, contact your child’s school or visit the Onslow County Schools website at www.onslow.k12.nc.us.

Sincerely,



Ross G. Friebel, Director
Digital Learning and Teaching Services