



OWOSSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ready for the World

21st Century learners in Owosso are:

Inquirers – Owosso is transforming the way we educate students. We are working to create a wireless district where all students can seek out answers to all of their questions in real time. Students can develop solutions to real-world problems in new and exciting ways.

Knowledgeable – Beginning in our all-day kindergarten, Owosso students have extensive opportunities to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. With Owosso's Virtual Enterprise International, high school students have the opportunity to operate their own virtual company and interact with others around the globe.

Thinkers – Gone are the days of memorizing facts for a test. Owosso's students are being inspired by our faculty to open the larger textbook. Our thinkers are processing information, synthesizing data, and asking questions.

Communicators – Our children communicate at a speed and at such a volume, that the traditional school infrastructure struggles to accommodate. We are reconfiguring many of our processes and systems to facilitate and embrace the technological age.

Principled – Whether it is leading our region in annual food drive efforts or students interacting with area disabled students in swimming therapy activities, Owosso students demonstrate the principles of respectful community members.

Open-minded – Owosso's students are continually exploring cultures and languages from around the world. Our elementary world cultures program exposes children to various cultures and languages from around the globe.

Caring – Our community cares about our students. The mission of the Owosso Public Schools Foundation is to secure grant funding and encourage innovative, world-class opportunities for students and inspire our students to be highly-competitive problem solvers in the global economy.

Risk-takers – The faculty at Owosso Public Schools encourages our students to approach new ideas and concepts with courage. Regardless of the outcome, each endeavor at Owosso Public Schools is an opportunity for growth.

Balanced – Each level of programming at Owosso Public Schools provides opportunities for children to participate in educational opportunities beyond the classroom and outside of the regular school day. OPS embraces the concept of the multi-dimensional learner.

Reflective – Our students are involved in the process of evaluating their own educational journey. All of our students are engaged in assessing their individual strengths and limitations in order to build their individual capacity.

Frequently Asked Questions about One to One Pads

Will the students take the iPads home each night?

Yes, that is our goal. We would like each student to have their calendar, contacts, photos, videos, bookmarks for websites, folders, and a drop box for assignments accessible to them at all times. We feel that when the students take ownership for a device, they tend to take better care of it, as compared to iPads or laptops that are kept on a cart in a classroom.

Will the student's textbooks be loaded on the iPad?

Textbooks will be available soon on the iPad from various textbook companies and we hope to add them as soon as possible. However, giving students a device like an iPad will give them access to a broader array of learning materials than what a traditional textbook would allow (i.e. web sites, audiobooks, video content, podcasts and apps). Many districts that have given their students devices like the iPad have moved away from the use of traditional textbooks.

What if a student does not have Internet at home?

The student will still have access to many features on the iPad and teachers will be able to make accommodations on assignments for students that do not have internet access at home. Many locations outside of school now support wireless internet access.

What if a student loses or breaks their iPad?

Students will most likely have to pay a fee to have their iPad replaced if it is lost, broken, or stolen. We will have iPads available in the school library that they can borrow temporarily if something should happen to their assigned iPad.

What is the purpose of the school giving my child an iPad?

Owosso Public Schools wants our students to have instant access to the information that they need to get a true 21st Century Education. We want our students to use their time, energy, and brain capacity for creativity, ideas, and innovation rather than memorizing something they can look up easily on the internet. Our focus will be shifting to a more inquiry based education with the teacher facilitating the learning. Our students need instant access to information without having to wait for the computer lab to be available. Many teachers are choosing to "flip" their classroom where students will get the lesson information online and then work through the lesson together during physical class time. The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. We feel strongly that the iPads will help us reach our International Baccalaureate goals with regards in an inquiry based education.

How do we sustain this program for years to come?

As we move to a system that will provide a device to each student, the district will begin to save money from several areas that can help fund this initiative:

- Computer labs in the schools where students have their own devices will no longer need a computer lab. This means the \$500+ expenditure per computer every 3-5 years will no longer be needed. This money could be targeted at sustaining the 1 to 1 device initiative.
- Printing costs should greatly decline the more we get devices into the student's hands. When all students in a classroom have a device, they do not need to print their work. They can now just turn it in digitally. Teachers do not have to make copies of handouts but can just electronically deliver them to their students. This will save on the cost of both paper, toner, and ink.
- Textbooks may not be needed anymore. Traditional paper textbooks can cost \$75-\$200 per book. If digital resources like websites, online videos, podcasts, apps, etc. are used in place of traditional textbooks, the district can use the funds allocated to textbooks to help sustain their iPad initiative. Apple now has a free application for the Mac that will allow anyone to create a multimedia rich textbook. The software is easy to learn and use.
- Graphing Calculators can be another expense that secondary buildings incur for their math classes. There are free graphing calculator apps available for the iPad.

Will students be able to download their own content?

Students must be thirteen years old to have an iTunes account, so until they reach that age all content will be downloaded by school personnel.

Will the iPad have a filter on it for Internet use?

While the iPad is in the district, the device will be filtered using the county-wide content filter. When the device is at home parental monitoring will be essential. Parents could also purchase the app 'mobicip' or 'Safe Eyes Mobile' to provide a safe internet browsing experience at home.



	Apple iPad	Android Tablet	Kindle Fire
Battery Life	10-11 Hours	8-10 Hours	Up to 8 Hours
Screen Size	9.7 "	7" - 9.7"	7"
# of Apps	550,000	450,000	?; Not published
Security of App Store	Secure; Apple vets apps before they are put in the store	Questionable; Android Market does not vet their app market; Cases of malicious apps have occurred	Secure; Amazon vets their app store
Apps for Education	Education has rapidly taken to the iPad and there are hundreds of apps for education	Less than Apple from our research	Less than Apple from our research
Camera	iPad 2 0.7mp New iPad 5mp	Various megapixel; i.e. Samsung is 3mp	No Camera
Price	iPad 2 \$399 New iPad \$499	\$300 and up; Most tablets that have similar specs to the iPad cost the same or more.	\$199
Textbooks	Major publishers are developing multimedia rich textbooks for the iPad; Apple offers for Mac users a simple tool for creating multimedia textbooks	mostly PDF; often lacking multimedia	mostly PDF; often lacking multimedia
User Friendly	Apple's interface has been highly regarded for its ease of use	Models vary; Some are close to the iPad but some are slower and not as friendly	User friendly
Memory	16, 32, 64 GB	8, 16, 32, 64 GB	8 GB

	Apple iPad	Android Tablet	Kindle Fire
Best for Education (currently)	<p> The iPad is ahead of its competition, especially in regards to education. Schools across the country are embracing this as the device of choice. Textbook publishers are also embracing the iPad. The iPad has the most apps, is user friendly, has long battery life, and has multimedia rich textbooks.</p> <p>The only challenges for the iPad are the lack of USB flash drive or SD card connectivity. Java and Flash are not supported on the browser as well. Many sites have abandoned these in order to make them mobile device compatible.</p>	<p>In order to get something close to the iPad you spend about the same, but you get fewer multimedia textbooks, vetted apps and less battery life.</p>	<p>While the price is lower, you do not get a camera, as many apps or multimedia textbooks. You also get a smaller screen and battery life.</p>