



= \$800

DISTRIBUTED TO 822 FRESHMEN

\$657,600 TOTAL

1:1 #limitless LAPTOP DEPLOYMENT

“My laptop allowed me to learn in different ways that are easy, and it helps me engage more in the activities we do at school. The MacBook Air is very fun and interesting because of how the design and software is set up.” -Karissa McFaden

JOIN THE GROUP

While setting up their system preferences, freshmen Michael Hartford, JaChristian Thompson, Derrolle Keys and Jordan Wheeler talk about their new laptops. For some freshmen, the MacBooks were also their first personal computer to keep at home. “I didn’t have my own laptop before they gave them to us,” Michael said. “It really benefitted my life.”



“The Macbooks improve our learning by letting us interact with our material in a more accessible way. However, time will improve our use and performance with them such as with typing and learning the different software.” -Adan Duhart

“The MacBook Airs are OK. I mainly just shop on mine. When I do need to use it for homework though, it’s really easy. I use the backpack that came with it though all the time. I think it’s really awesome that I didn’t even have to pay full price for the computer.” -Torye Morris

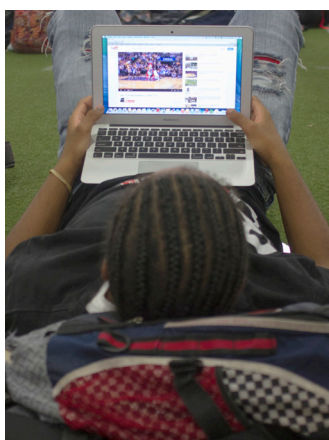


LOOK IT UP

In the outdoor athletic facility, freshmen Howie Crisler and Gracie Hernandez look up funny videos on YouTube. Although the laptops were intended for academic use, the freshmen used them for personal purposes as well. “They’re great at school because now I don’t have to look up stuff in a textbook,” Gracie said. “I also use it outside of school for personal writing.”

TOTAL ACCESS

With his computer completely set up, freshman Christopher Lewis goes straight to YouTube replays of professional basketball games. Students also lend their laptops to family members at home who need computer access. “I let my little brother use my MacBook sometimes,” Christopher said. “He uses it mainly for homework though.”



After receiving his new MacBook Air, freshman Dillon Ruff shows it off. The laptops were an effort to integrate technology with learning. “The laptops have benefitted me in many ways,” Dillon said. “It gave us Google Drive which has a ton of storage and helps with school work like group projects and essays.”

“My laptop has given me the ability to study faster. Now, I don’t have to pull out my phone to use the internet for everything in my classes, which is really nice. The MacBooks have allowed me to have a fun experience in class while I learn.” -Jeremy Black



“The screen is only 11 inches long, so I can carry it around easily. It’s nice not having to write down everything in a notebook. I can just type my notes on my laptop.” -Dasha Velasquez

A BREATH OF FRESH MACBOOK AIR

District goes all-in to provide laptops to all freshmen

As they typed away at the keyboards of their new MacBook Airs, the freshmen were marked as the first class to receive laptops from the schools new initiative, One to the World.

The One to the World initiative resulted from the school district seeking a new 1:1 proposition to implement.

“District and campus leaders had discussed the idea of a 1:1 initiative for years,” associate principal Jimmy Bowser said. “Research was done and a proposal was submitted to the Board of Trustees. The Board passed the initiative on the first vote. The District invited students, parents, community members, teachers and other stakeholders to be a part of the process as the final proposal took shape.”

Once the board, along with the invitees, saw the final proposal, it didn’t take long for the initiative to be approved.

“The World Initiative was approved by the McKinney ISD Board of Trustees last September,” Mr. Bowser said.

“After examining the available research and seeing the positive academic impact that other districts were having, campus and district leaders believed it was the right time for McKinney ISD to implement its own learning initiative with technology-centric focus. I was excited to see the district

move in this direction.”

With a price tag exceeding \$1 million 750 thousand, it should have carved out a sizable chunk of the budget, if it wasn’t for one loophole.

“The initiative was paid for with bond dollars,” Mr. Bowser said. “Bond dollars cannot be used for operational costs, so the adoption of this initiative has no impact on the school district operational and instructional budget.”

Since it was a brand new initiative, the need to integrate it quickly into the curriculum was apparent.

“The district has been working diligently to adapt and modify areas of the curriculum that can be enhanced by the 1:1 initiative,” Mr. Bowser said. “Teachers received their MacBooks last June and received specialized training over the summer and throughout the fall semester, before the deployment of the MacBooks to the freshman class.”

On top of the specialized training for the teachers, department heads received extra help conforming the curriculum as a whole.

“Curriculum coordinators at the district level have been working directly with department heads to identify specific ways to make the learning experiences more attractive and

engaging for all students,” Mr. Bowser said. “The initiative will be fully deployed over the next three years as each freshman class will receive their MacBook computers that they will keep as their computers throughout high school.”

After full integration, the staff and administration hoped that this initiative would be worth all of the work and money that was put into it.

“I believe this initiative will yield fruitful results,” Mr. Bowser said. “When combined with the adoption of Canvas and the implementation of the Engaged Learning Model, which is currently being implemented at the elementary and middle school levels.”

In the program’s first five months of implementation, the program already showed success. Students had them every day, and repairs were minimal.

“I believe we are already seeing areas of success,” Mr. Bowser said. “Especially in the classrooms where the teachers and students have a deep understanding of the intentional goals of the benefits of 1:1 learning. Students are able to collaborate, communicate and produce artifacts of learning that are unique and masterful.”

by Jacob Frazier