



Black Rock Middle School

Lower Merion School District

Hello BRMS Families,

Enclosed you will find specific information regarding laptop distribution and policy guidelines for the 2023-2024 school year. Our 5th, 6th and 7th graders will be assigned a 1-1 Chromebook and our 8th graders will be assigned a 1-1 MacBook.

Laptops will be distributed in school by grade level on the following days:

- 8th Grade – Monday, September 11th
- 7th Grade – Tuesday, September 19th
- 6th Grade – Monday, September 18th
- 5th Grade – Tuesday, September 19th

All BRMS students will be provided an opportunity to participate in a training session to review the policies and procedures regarding the appropriate use of the laptop prior to distribution. Teachers will also work with students to provide instruction related to digital citizenship throughout the year.

Students may not use their own personal laptop devices at school as they will not have access to our network. If a student should have a problem with their device, they will have the opportunity to visit Mr. Crocker at our tech center, located on the upper level near the library, between the hours of 7:45am – 3:05 pm, Monday through Friday during the school year. Prior to visiting the tech center, we encourage our students and parents/guardians to email the helpdesk outlining the technology concern at techsupport@lmsd.org.

In order for students to receive a device, students/families must complete the following:

1. Electronically sign a parent/guardian and student electronic agreement (via PowerSchool eCollect) granting the student permission for the student to use the device. Directions for electronically signing the appropriate agreement are attached. Please note, both the parent/guardian and the student must electronically sign the appropriate agreement in their respective PowerSchool Portal accounts.
 - a. Provide a parent/guardian electronic signature (via E-collect) designating Agreement A or Agreement B for permission of LMSD laptop use.
 - b. Provide a student signature (via E-collect) – Students will be given time to do this at school when they pick up their device if they are unable to access PowerSchool.
 - c. The District policies and administrative regulations cited in the agreement can be found at <https://www.lmsd.org/academics/instructional-tech/one-to-one/documents:>
Policy and Administrative Regulations 137: District-Issued Laptops: Student Use, Rights and Responsibilities
 - d. Parents and guardians are encouraged to review these policies ahead of time, so you feel comfortable electronically signing the agreement form. Questions about the policies and administrative regulations can be sent to George Frazier, Director of Information Systems, at frazier@lmsd.org.
 - e. If you require paper copies, please contact your student's school and paper copies of the policies and administrative regulations will be provided to you.



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2. Proof of insurance premium payment: \$30.00 for 5th-7th graders and \$70.00 for 8th graders.
 - a. Please submit the \$30.00 (Chromebook) or \$70.00 (MacBook) insurance premium through MySchoolBucks online. Direct links to pay these fees are included here:
 - [Grades 5, 6 and 7 – MySchoolBucks Chromebook Insurance Premium \\$30 fee](#)
 - [Grade 8 – MySchoolBucks MacBook Insurance Premium \\$70 fee](#)

If you do not have a MySchoolBucks account, please use the link below for instructions on how to set up your account: <https://www.lmsd.org/parents/myschoolbucks>.

- b. If you are unable to pay using MySchoolBucks, you may send the insurance premium check/money order to Black Rock Middle School. The check/money order should be payable to the Lower Merion School District. Please include your child's full name and student ID number in the memo line of the check/money order. Again, we are requesting that payment be made through MySchoolBucks but if this is not possible, you may submit a check/money order to the main office.
 - c. Please note that this insurance premium payment does not include the deductible for lost, stolen or damaged devices or chargers. In the case of 8th grade students, there is a \$100 deductible for lost or damaged devices. Lost MacBook chargers carry a fee of \$68, while lost Chromebook chargers are \$50. We encourage all students to be responsible with their laptop and charger throughout the year.

*Parents/guardians may not substitute homeowners or other personal insurance for District procured laptop insurance.

When a laptop is issued to a student as the result of an IEP team determining through the SETT process that a laptop is necessary component of the student's IEP, then the parent/guardian of the student is not required to pay the laptop insurance premium. However, parents/guardians may be required to pay the applicable insurance deductible charge for each theft, loss, or damage claim.

If a student does not have laptop insurance and the laptop is lost, stolen, or damaged while in that student's control, then the District reserves the right to hold the parent/guardian responsible for the full replacement or repair cost.

If a laptop is missing or suspected stolen on school grounds during the school day, the student must report this immediately to the Coordinator of School Culture (Kelly Peterson, petersk@lmsd.org) in their building. To report a laptop missing or stolen after school hours, the parent/guardian or student must email techsupport@lmsd.org.

Families who receive notification that they qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program for the 2023-2024 school year will have the option to forgo the insurance cost, yet still have their student's/students' laptop covered under this insurance agreement and do not need to provide payment. Families will only have this option if they have received notification from the school district that they qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program either by completing a new application online each school year and receive a letter from the School District that they qualify or have been notified by the School District that they are predetermined eligible. In addition to the qualification of the program each school year, each family needs to sign the Waiver for Sharing Information with Other Programs that accompanies the Free and Reduced/Direct Certification Eligibility Letters. The Free and Reduced Application and the Waiver for Sharing Information with Other Programs are available on the LMSD.org Nutritional Services Page (<https://www.lmsd.org/departments/nutritional>) of the website.



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Families who participate in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program will be required to pay the deductible charge for each theft, loss, or damage claim. Families wishing to participate in this program must apply or re-apply and be approved for the program yearly at www.schoolcafe.com. Information regarding the Free and Reduced Lunch Program can be found on the Lower Merion School District website by going to www.LMSD.org/fandr. Families who don't apply (or re-apply), or who are denied eligibility to participate in this program will be required to pay the insurance premium (\$70 for 8th graders and \$30 for 5-7th graders).

Students should also refer to the enclosed Best Practice Guidelines for Use of Student Laptop.

In the event you or your child refuses to electronically sign the agreement for laptop use, the District will use its best effort to make necessary accommodations for your child to ensure that your child's education is not adversely affected. For more information, please see Administrative Regulation 137 at <https://www.lmsd.org/academics/instructional-tech/one-to-one/documents>.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Kelly Peterson, Coordinator of School Culture, at petersk@lmsd.org, or Assistant Principal Jennifer Kehoe at kehoej@lmsd.org.

Sincerely,

Sarah Stout

Principal, Black Rock Middle School