



PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE

...meets the MacBook Rollout — Fall 2026

This fall, high school and senior high students trade in their Chromebooks for MacBooks — a far more capable device built for creating, not just consuming. **The upgrade only**

pays off if we're intentional about how we use it. The six Portrait of a Graduate competencies are our roadmap for making the most of it, from day one.

Chromebook → MacBook

1 Adaptability

"What's actually different about how I get things done on this device?"

- Give yourself two weeks to build new muscle memory — trackpad gestures, keyboard shortcuts, and window management all shift from Chrome OS.
- When an old Chromebook habit doesn't transfer, ask a peer or teacher instead of getting stuck.
- Treat early hiccups as practice reps, not setbacks — this is the mindset the Portrait asks of every graduate.

2 Communication

"Who could I reach better with tools I didn't have before?"

- Use Pages, Keynote, and Numbers side-by-side with Word, PowerPoint, and Excel — pick whichever produces the clearest, most polished result.
- Better built-in mic and speakers make voiceovers, recorded practice presentations, and Voice Memos easier to produce well.
- A full keyboard and precision trackpad make longer, cleaner written work easier to craft and revise.

3 Creativity

"What can I make now that a Chromebook couldn't handle?"

- Edit video, audio, and photos natively with iMovie, GarageBand, and Photos — no cloud lag required.
- Access full creative and pro-level apps (design, music, code) that were previously out of reach.
- Combine tools into multimedia projects: video essays, podcasts, digital art, and more.

4 Critical Thinking

"Which tool actually fits the problem — not just the one I'm used to?"

- Compare app options before defaulting to old Chromebook-era habits out of routine.
- Notice when local processing power — not just the cloud — changes what a project can look like.
- Reflect on which workflows got faster or better, and why, so the upgrade becomes a lesson in itself.

5 Curiosity

"What does this device do that I haven't even discovered yet?"

- Explore Spotlight search, Stage Manager, Focus modes, and Shortcuts — tools most Chromebooks never offered.
- Pick one new app or feature to try each month, just to see what it opens up.
- Ask "what if I tried..." before assuming the old way is the only way.

6 Empathy

"How can these tools help me understand and support my classmates?"

- Use built-in accessibility features — VoiceOver, captions, Voice Control — to understand different learning needs.
- Be patient with classmates still building comfort with the new device; everyone's on their own timeline.
- Share the tips and shortcuts you learn — lifting up the whole class lifts up the district.

NEW DEVICE. BIGGER CAPABILITY. SAME PORTRAIT.

FALL 2026 MACBOOK ROLLOUT · TEAM PLANO ISD · DISTRICT MADE