

Q/A Document from PLI Parent Information Nights

1. If the students are getting iPads, why is there also a book rental fee?

The iPads are being used to personalize each students' education. Only a limited number of textbooks will actually be on the iPads. Students will still use traditional textbooks in the majority of their classes.

2. What is the memory on the iPad?

These are 16GB devices.

3. Keyboarding? Writing papers?

While traditionally, keyboarding has occurred on a desktop, students in this generation do not see the use of a keyboard as a requirement for completing work. While most parents would prefer a keyboard for themselves, students are much more flexible and adapt to the use of the on screen iPad keyboard.

4. How much will they need it for homework?

That depends on the student and the teacher. The goal is to personalize learning. Use of the device will differ from student to student. Also, teachers are not abandoning their previous teaching methods. There will be a combination of traditional and mobile learning assignments.

5. What if a parent's idea of what is appropriate differs from the school?

The school takes great effort to filter web traffic while students are within the school walls. Web traffic outside of the school needs to be monitored by parents. If you have specific concerns, please contact the school office.

6. Can we choose to have the camera removed?

You have the right to make this request.

7. Why is this necessary, especially for young children? (Similar question asked - Do the kindergarten teachers recommend the students using the iPad at home?)

Young children have the greatest need for differentiation. Their minds develop at different rates and all students can benefit from a teacher being able to choose applications and activities directly related to the needs of the individual student.

8. How much iPad time do they plan to have in class?

This will vary based on your student's teacher. By no means will students be "on screen" for extended periods of time. The device is being used to enhance the learning process. Teachers will have students use a device when it is best suited for reaching a learning target. If you have specific concerns, you should contact the teacher of your son/daughter.

9. If my child (over 13) uses his own apple id, will all of our apps/music/etc... sync automatically to his school device?

No. The student would have to specifically go out to the app store or itunes store and manually download previously purchased content. Keep in mind, the content should only be brought down if it is serving an educational use/purpose for the student.

10. If an iPad is forgotten at home, will they have an opportunity to sign in on another device to retrieve homework?

No. This is an individualized program. This program is also an opportunity to teach responsibility to the students. If it was “digital homework,” it technically would have been turned in prior to the student arriving at school and discovering the iPad was still at home.

11. My student is 12 and already has an apple ID. Will she need to create a new one?

Yes. Legally, creating an Apple ID requires that an individual be 13 years old. The school district can't pretend a child is 13 when they are not.

12. Can students turn in the iPad on a game night if they paid for the \$50 protection plan?

No. Students who pay to take home a device are expected to take it home every night.

13. What if I decide later to participate in the protection plan?

Fill out a new protection plan form and pay the fee in the office.

14. Can we set the restrictions on the iPad at home and disengage restrictions before going to school?

No. The devices are remotely managed. A profile is created based on your student's age.

15. Do the iPads have student names on them if they all have the same case?

The student's network id can be seen through the clear stand on the back.

16. What if they have homework at night and the iPad stays at school? Are students penalized?

The device is an opportunity for your child's assignments to be differentiated. Teachers will work with students on an as needed basis regarding homework. However, many students do not flourish by doing traditional assignments which is why the initiative to personalize learning has occurred.

17. Is my child allowed to bring and use her own iPad?

No. The district-issued iPad is the only device allowed in classrooms. Since the school district owns the device, we are able to push out applications and books purchased by the school district to the device. This ensures all students have the information required by their teachers when they need it.

18. If my child doesn't bring home an iPad, will she have access online to things to help complete her assignments at home?

It would depend on the requirements for the assignment. The school will not purchase additional licenses for student home use. The student copy of applications will be housed on the iPad. Certain applications can be logged into using the internet, but there is no guarantee that all applications used by teachers are accessible in that manner.

19. Don't you think this may have an impact on their future work ethic?

Absolutely! Our intention is to make it a positive impact. We want to teach the students how to use the devices ethically, responsibly, politely, and as needed.