

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Educators in Greater St. Albert Catholic Schools are seeing firsthand the power of technology to enhance the learning for students. The use of technology is allowing students to engage in learning tasks that promote a greater understanding that were previously inconceivable. Today, devices can be personalized for each individual adding special support to learning as needed. With this in mind schools are developing plans to encourage students to **Bring in their Own Robust Devices (BYORD)**.

At St. Kateri Tekakwitha Academy, we are encouraging students in grades 4 and 5 to **"BYORD" Bring their Own Robust Device** and allow students the opportunity to have technology **"in hand"** in our classrooms. We do have school owned devices for shared use by students to ensure all students have some access to technology.

While no device is perfect if you are considering a purchase, the following guidelines would allow students to have a device that will allow them to make the most of Google Apps for Education and personalize their learning.

- Wireless networking capability (the district provides filtered wireless access in all buildings for students.)

- A microphone

- An external keyboard for entering text

- An audio output for earbuds or headphones

- A minimum of 6 hours of use from one battery charge

- A full-functioning, recent Chrome web-browser that will allow access to Google Apps For Education tools and documents

- A sturdy carrying case that will protect the device

- An integrated camera that takes both still photos and video

- The ability to run Flash software

There is no "perfect" device, however a Chromebook would meet the criteria above:

Chromebooks (ex. Asus Chromebook, HP Chromebook, Samsung Chromebook)