Voluntary
“Learning with Laptops”
Program
2011-2012
Chaparral ES, Ladera Ranch ES, Oso Grande ES, & Ladera Ranch MS

Next year will be the 12th year of our voluntary laptop program at schools in Ladera Ranch

Laptop Learning in CUSD

Introductions

Laptop Learning
History and Timeline in CUSD

• 2001: Implementation at Chaparral
• 2002: Chaparral program expands
• 2003: Implement at Ladera Ranch Grades 3 - 7
• 2004: Introduced at 8th Grade at Ladera
• 2005: Implement at Oso Grande
• 2010: Program “paused”
• 2011: Network upgrade – program restored

School Goals with our educational program in Ladera Ranch

• Reading
• Writing
• Math
• Character
• Information Literacy
• Laptops Used as a Tool Integrated in existing Standards-based Curriculum

Computers in Education

this is a learning tool…not a frill.
Goals of the Program

To develop information literacy and raise the level of access to computers for all students

Information Literacy

A task is defined (problem solving)
Information is sought (research)
Information is Processed (reading and writing)
Information is Presented (critical thinking)

Information Literacy

This can be -- and is done -- with traditional pencil, paper, and print media

But…
Students using computers to do this have access to more up-to-date information, in a variety of media, and are more motivated to succeed

Our focus is on the curriculum
- Computers are a tool, not a subject
- Kids develop computer skills best if they learn them in regular classes
- State education standards drive lessons, not computer activities
- Teacher is a facilitator, not a disseminator

The research shows that laptop students exhibit
- Improved writing with higher quality
- Better research and analysis skills
- Excellent presentation skills
- Higher problem solving and critical thinking skills
- Improved interest and attendance
How is technology going to raise test scores?

- In and of itself, it doesn’t
- In a knowledge-based economy, every child must have an understanding of information technology as part of their “basic education”
- Increased knowledge of the core academic curriculum will raise test score

Focus on problem solving
Teamwork
Literacy
Communication

...fosters an increase in learning and student interest.

A Partnership With Parents

- Goal: Increase access to technology and develop information literacy skills of all children.
- Apple Store & Microsoft Store
- Parents:
  - Buy the computer
  - Software
- District:
  - Integrate into the curriculum
  - Train teachers
  - Provide limited technical support

Laptop Basics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum Technical Requirements:</th>
<th>Recommend Technical Requirements:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating System:</td>
<td>Windows Vista or OS X 10.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Windows 7 or OS X 10.6 or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memory:</td>
<td>1GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2GB to 4GB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processor:</td>
<td>2.00 GHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2.8 GHz or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Card:</td>
<td>Internal wireless card minimum n level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internal wireless card n level (802.11)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support latest Flash and Shockwave versions. Microsoft Office Home and Student 2010 for Windows and 2011 for Apple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery Life:</td>
<td>6 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 hours or more</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Other Items to Consider

- Warranty
- Insurance
- LoJack for Laptops
- Rolling computer case/backpack
- Additional memory
That’s a lot of money. Why make the investment?

- Enhanced learning for your child
- Additional computer in your home
- The educational return on this investment should be significantly greater

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Level of Laptop Security?

- Parent and teacher supervision
- Physical Security
- Filters and Firewall
- Acceptable Use Policy

Do I need to purchase a laptop?

- No, this is a voluntary program

Will my child still get to use computers?

- Yes, with the same access to the curriculum
- Basic standard of access provided at our schools in Ladera Ranch

Do Students Have to Share Laptops?

- No, but many do
When can my child join the program?

- Chaparral - Grades 3–5
- Ladera Ranch – Grades 4-8
- Oso Grande – Grades 4-5
- Any time

Can We Use the Laptop at Home?

- Yes
- Parent Password (keep it a secret!)
- Adding Peripherals

Buying a laptop...

- Apple and Microsoft Stores at The Shops in Mission Viejo

How Do I Participate?

1. Commit to the laptop program by filling out the laptop registration form.
2. Purchase a laptop (meeting the minimum requirements) for your child.

Forms are available from your school

Getting More Information

Chaparral Elementary School
Joe McGann, Principal

Ladera Ranch Middle School
Karen Gerhard, Principal

Ladera Ranch Elementary School
Meg Gwyn, Principal

Oso Grande Elementary School
Jayne Martin, Principal

Thank you for attending