## iLEARN - Digital Learning Initiative

## Parent Information - Tuesday, October 20, 2015



## What is iLEARN?

- Independent Learning,
  Environments, And
  Responsible Networking
- It is the vision for teaching and learning supported by technology at Methacton High School



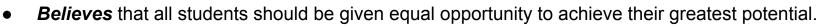
- An opportunity to enhance instructional strategies and resources for continued growth of lifelong learners in our educational community
- Supports 21st Century and STEM skills and concepts: *Creativity, Communication, Collaboration, Citizenship, and Critical thinking*

## Why was iLEARN developed?

#### **Methacton Vision:**

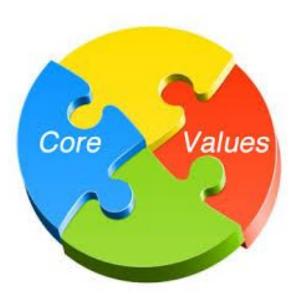
The Vision of the Methacton School District is to prepare graduates to thrive in an **increasingly complex world** and **contribute** as productive members of society.

#### **Methacton Shared Values:**



- **Believes** that all students should be provided a full, balanced standards-based curriculum at all levels, supported with pedagogical strategies that best address individual learning needs.
- **Believes** the use of state-of-the-art and emerging technology is essential to quality education.

iLEARN affords students an opportunity to learn in an engaging environment that is reflective of the ever changing digital society that surrounds us.



## iLEARN: Evolution of a Vision

#### 2013-2014

- District-Wide Wireless
- Mobile devices (laptops/iPads) in classroom
- Student Network Account and Resources

#### 2014-2015

- Staff and Student Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
- Google Apps For Education (GAFE)
- iLEARN Flexible Learning Environment (Library)
- Professional Development to Support GAFE Targeted/Certification Track



#### iLEARN: Evolution of a Vision - Today

2015-2016

- iLEARN Flexible Learning Environments (Aux. Library, Commons, CSR)
- iLEARN 1:1 Chromebook
- BrightBytes Survey (District-wide)
- Professional Development as determined by survey results
- Student Advisory Council



### iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: Overview



This pilot will provide us with an opportunity to identify, design, and implement the supports required to expand this model in the district.

- 170 students have been selected as a part of the pilot in the 15-16 school year
  - 4 teachers across core areas (Math, English, Social Studies, and Science)
  - 2 sections for each teacher
  - Courses include students from each academic level (Academic, Honors, and AP)
  - Students are from all 4 grade levels (9-12)
- Students will be assigned a personal Chromebook just as they would be a textbook
- Parents/Students will have the OPTION for 24/7 accessibility to the Chromebook to extend and support learning outside the classroom

#### iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: Benefits/Outcomes

- Provides an opportunity for increased student achievement and growth
- Affords greater differentiation to support student-centered learning
- Promotes collaboration, communication, higher levels of thinking, and projectbased learning
- Provides an opportunity for increased student engagement
- Provided integration of online resources (Google Translate, Evernote, etc.)
- Allows for asynchronous & synchronous collaboration in and out of school



#### iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: Implementation/Timeline

- 10/21/2015 Parent confirmation of responsibility letter
  - Letter due back signed by 10/23/2015
- 10/23/2015 Student device handout
  - Review of expectations and procedures
- 10/30/2015 BrightBytes survey (pre)
- 01/18/2016 01/22/2016 Check-in meeting with sample student population
- 05/30/2016 06/03/2016 BrightBytes survey (post)
- 06/06/2016 06/10/2016 Student device collection



#### iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: Responsibility

Parents have two options for student participation in the 2015-16 initiative:

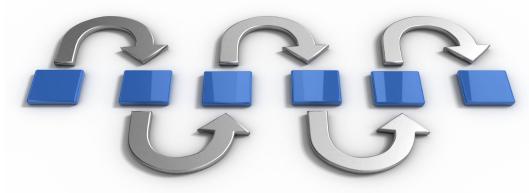
- (1) Accept responsibility of the Chromebook
  - (a) The Chromebook will be treated the same way as any other instructional resource e.g. textbooks. If the Chromebook is lost, stolen, or damaged due to negligence the replacement/repair cost of the unit will become an obligation to be paid by parent/student.
  - (b) This option will allow your child to bring the device home every day.
- (2) Do not accept responsibility of Chromebook
  - (a) The student will be permitted to use the Chromebook throughout the school day and be required to pick up/drop off each day to limit exposure to loss or damage.



#### iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: Handout procedure

- Chromebooks will be distributed to students during the class on October 23, 2015.
- Students will be assigned a personal Chromebook, charger, and a protective case provided that the parent letter has been turned in.
- Students that do not turn in the letter will be assigned a Chromebook to use in class only.

**NOTE**: It is important that the student comes to school each day with the Chromebook fully charged. This will provide approx. 9 hours of battery life.



### iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: Technical Support

- If the student or teacher is not able to "fix" an issue, or if the damage is physical and observable (crack, dropped, spill)
  - Take unit to a location specified by your teacher at handout
  - The student's name and serial number of the broken unit will be logged along with the serial number of the loaner unit
  - The student will use the "temporary" unit until notified that the repair is complete
- Repairs will be facilitated by the district's Technology Department
- If a unit is stolen or damaged by another party, this must be reported immediately to law enforcement or building administration.



# iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: BrightBytes Survey

- BrightBytes is a survey used by districts to help improve student learning through research and analysis.
- It is used throughout the nation to analyze and guide the impact of technology on student learning.

Districts have seen the following benefits:

- Improved student achievement as measured by state tests and college & career readiness
- Advanced teacher readiness to implement 21st century curriculum initiatives
- Improved results from professional development because of better targeting of teacher gaps
- Others

#### Will provide us insight on the impact of the iLEARN Device Initiative

#### iLEARN - 1:1 Chromebook: Devices at Home

#### Chromebooks:

- will not be enabled to allow remote access
- will be filtered using the district's web content filter
  - Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliant
  - Student will have same online experience (filtered) at home and at school
- are only accessible using district issued network accounts
- can be connected to home wireless routers
- can be used in offline mode when wireless connectivity is not available



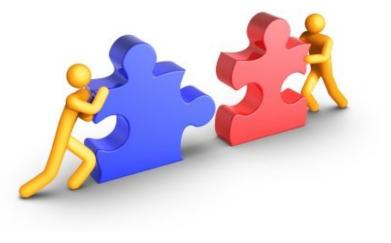
## Thank you for your partnership

#### The Methacton Mission:

The Methacton School District, with its strong tradition of excellence, will challenge all students to achieve their greatest potential and **create a vibrant community of learners** who appreciate diversity and will lead and succeed in a dynamic global society.

Believes education is the shared responsibility of the student, school, family, and community.

Learn, Lead, Succeed — Together



## **Questions?**

