One to One Devices
Frequently Asked Questions

How is the district paying for One-to-One Devices for students?
HCSD will use 2 funding sources for the project:
- Emergency Connectivity Funds (ECF) and,
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds.

How was this project chosen over other needs?
First, and in response to instructional challenges that emerged from Covid, the federal government established grant funds (ECF and ESSER) to help school districts bolster resources to help students maintain academic progress through innovative learning modalities through technology and equitable access to virtual learning tools.

To receive grant funds, school districts were required to develop a plan based on needs and recommendations from stakeholders. Between Nov. 18 and Dec. 3rd 2021, HCSD asked parents to complete a survey developed for this purpose. Responses from *The American Recovery Act – Parent Survey* helped prioritize needs and one key item in the survey, indicated that 83.6% of parents ranked student technology as "Moderately to Mostly Important."

How will this help students?
One of the takeaways from 2020 was that many of our students did not have access to online learning at home placing them at an academic disadvantage to those students who did. Student laptops will allow for regular use of digital curriculum components, the use of computer programs that will enhance student engagement, increase student-to- teacher interaction and extend instructional continuity. Without appropriate learning tools, whether a textbook, calculator or digital tools, students are not able to fully engage with their coursework and maintain academic progress. One-to-One Devices enable students to access classroom digital resources and extend time for practice and learning.

Why not use the money to increase salaries?
- ECF and ESSER III funds are non-recurring and are intended to be used for specific, allowable activities highly correlated with increasing student achievement. HCSD used voter approved millage funds to increase teacher salaries. With ECF and ESSER funds, we can make a significant investment in advancing technology resources for all students.

How will you keep students from accessing inappropriate websites on the laptops?
- Student laptops will have access to approved education resources only. Students will not be able to load any additional applications or programs. As required by law, all internet access will be filtered in accordance with the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) preventing students from accessing inappropriate material.

How will the school district keep up with laptop replacement and repair?
- Devices will be assessed for damage, re-imaged, and put back into circulation at the school site. Damages to laptops due to accidents and general day to day wear and tear will be covered by the Accidental Damage Extended Warranty at no cost to the student. In the event the device is lost or there is intentional damage, the cost of repair or replacement of the device can be charged to the student's account through a Notice of Obligation.

More about ESSER Grant Funds
- In March 2021, the federal government established The American Rescue Plan (ARP) and provided Florida $7 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, (ESSER) funding.
- Florida's ARP state plan was approved by the U.S. Department of Education and is focused on advancing existing pandemic-related education initiatives, including:
  - Addressing and mitigating learning loss through targeted interventions;
  - Closing achievement gaps through high-quality afterschool and summer programming; and
  - Building student resiliency by enhancing student services and wraparound supports.
- School districts were required to submit their American Rescue Plan for state approval.
  - All FLDOE approved American Rescue Plans

Summary of Emergency Connectivity Funds (ECF)
- The Emergency Connectivity Fund Program will reimburse schools and libraries for the reasonable costs of eligible equipment and broadband connections used to help students, staff, and patrons who otherwise lack access to be able to engage in remote learning.
  - ECF Frequently Asked Questions

Have More Questions about the One-to-One Device plan?
- Submit a question through Let's Talk!