

October 14, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians of 5th Grade Students,

The information in the attached FAQ sheet pertains to the district-wide initiative, Project Copernicus. Please read this FAQ sheet provided by the district to become familiar with the basics of the initiative. If you would like your student to participate in Project Copernicus, please return the signed permission form to your child's classroom teacher.

Woodland's 5th and 6th grade classrooms are nine of the fourteen classrooms district-wide taking part in the Project Copernicus pilot year. Three classrooms are at Osseo Senior High and two are at Weaver Lake: A Science, Math, and Technology School. Often on the cutting edge, Woodland is affording our students a great opportunity to experience learning in a new way by transforming our classrooms, furthering student-centered learning with student-owned technology.

Bringing student-owned devices to school is optional. It is important to stress that this action is NOT required.

Here is specific information for Woodland:

- Students may bring devices to school beginning November 2, 2009.
- Only laptops and netbooks that have wireless Internet access will be accepted as part of the project at Woodland; NOT cell phones or other handheld devices.
- Devices must be taken to and from school daily and charged overnight at home.
- Students will use their devices cooperatively by allowing others in their group to use the keyboard. Devices will be handled only by the device owner.
- Students will use free web-based applications such as Google Docs, Google Spreadsheet, and Google Presentation. Software does not need to be purchased by families.
- If families desire to make a hardware purchase, you can go to any electronics store, department, or online vendor that sells laptops and netbooks. My favorites are MicroCenter in St. Louis Park, www.microcenter.com and www.newegg.com.

We are tremendously excited about the prospect of teaching and learning in a new way in our 5th and 6th grade classrooms at Woodland. If you have questions or concerns, please direct them to your student's teacher or to Rojanne Brown, Technology Integration Teacher.

Sincerely,

Rojanne Brown
TICT

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