

July 5, 2011

Dear McCracken County Parent/Guardian:

We are very proud and excited to begin our third year of our One to One laptop program where each high school student will have an Apple Macbook laptop computer assigned to them for **in-school use** at **no cost** to students and/or parents. Our District , as well as others, experience many benefits associated with a one to one program such as:

- Increased engagement of students in their schoolwork;
- Lower rates of absenteeism and decrease in disciplinary problems,
- Teaching of 21st Century literacy skills--the new learning, communicating, and thinking skills of the Information Age--as well as general technology skills;
- Increased parental involvement and satisfaction; and
- Developing the teaching skills of participating teachers.

Because we know that many parents/students would like to have access to the laptops outside of the school day, we have researched the best way to provide this opportunity to every student at the lowest possible cost while protecting this investment in the One to One laptop program. After careful investigation and consideration, we have continue to find that the best way to provide this opportunity is through our parent consortium. Membership in this consortium is for those who would like their student to have access to these Macbook laptops outside of the school setting. Membership is voluntary. It will not affect the student's access to a laptop for in-school use.

For a \$40 annual consortium membership, students will be able to take their assigned Macbook home with them. Consortium membership may be paid at registration or with four \$10 installment payments. In the event that there is an accidental damage or loss claim that is not covered by the AppleCare warranty, parents would pay the first \$100 per incident. The remaining expense would come from the consortium. We investigated the possibility of third party insurance similar to what other school districts are using. However, this insurance required a payment of at least \$80 a year in addition to the \$100 deductible.

We look forward to a great year enhancing our students' education with our One to One program.

MCPS Technology Dept.