Dear Parents and Guardians,

This year, we will be encouraging students to bring their own Chromebooks to school, to use for instructional activities.

We thought it might be helpful if we outlined some specifications of any device you might buy your child/children if you'd like them to use it to complete school work.

While we won't recommend specific models or even kinds of devices, I would encourage you to buy a piece of equipment that meets these requirements if it is to be used for most school work. Your child's device should have:

- *an 802.11x wireless networking capability (the district provides filtered wireless access in all buildings to students)*
- *a color screen*
- *at least 4 gb of RAM*
- *an on screen or external keyboard or other means of entering text*
- *an audio out port and earbuds or headphones*
- *a minimum 4 hours of use from one battery charge*
- *a full functioning, recent web browser (such as Chrome) that will allow it to access Google Apps for Education tools and documents, the Infinite Campus student portal, Moodle 2.0, and the Destiny library catalog along with other e-resources the district provides*

You may wish to consider getting a device that has:

- *a camera that takes both still photos and video (front and rear cameras are most versatile)*
- *a microphone*
- *ability to run Flash (this is to view some online videos and animations until all sites convert to HTML5)*
- *machine-based productivity software (Microsoft Office, Open Office, Google Drive, etc) for use when an Internet connection is not available*

Many Chromebooks on the market can do the job.

You might wish to bring the above list into the store to inquire of the salespeople that the Chromebooks you are considering meet the requirements.

When writing a paper, solving a math problem, researching a topic or collaborating with fellow students, technology can help your child do his or her school work and develop good technology skills along the way.

Your friends in education,
Dixon Road Teachers and Staff