

July 4, 2018

Dear Parents of children entering Grade 6 in September 2018:

Phil & Jennie Gaglardi Academy will continue classroom laptop integration for the upcoming school year 2018-19, and I wanted to write before the new school year started so that families had an opportunity to think through and search out the best options for laptop purchases over the summer break. You may decide to purchase a new, used, reconditioned or borrow a laptop from a family member. With enough notice, hopefully, you will find the right laptop that fits within your family budget. Please, no Chromebooks, netbooks, tablets (including I-PADs), or Apple MacBook. These technologies are not compatible with the school's IT and operating systems.

For your child to gain access to the school's on-line programs, the system requirements are:

- At least 14" screen to avoid eye fatigue.
- At least 6 GB RAM and 500 GB Hard Drive.
- AMD or Intel graphics.
- Built-in camera and microphone.
- CPU either AMD A-series or Intel I-series.
- Windows operating system pre-loaded and set up before bringing the laptop into the school.

Moreover, Samuel Sieb, our IT Specialist, is planning to be at the school either a bit before or as school starts to partition each hard drive and install Fedora Linux – our school's operating system. Therefore, it would be beneficial if you would drop off your child's laptop at the end of August so that Samuel can begin the necessary work of partitioning the hard drives. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call. The school office will re-open starting August 21st.

Thank you all for your continued support and I look forward to another successful school year. God is good and may He continue to bless you and empower you to know His love and be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God (Eph 3:16-19).

Bernadette Pitcher
Director, Phil & Jennie Gaglardi Academy