



BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) GUIDE 2025-2026



BYOD (BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE) QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

In choosing a device to use as part of the BYOD program, Maranatha makes the following recommendations:

- Evaluate the device capabilities for creating content, not just consuming it.
- Many manufacturers offer education pricing for retail customers when asked.
- Device manufacture dates should be no older than three or four years. Students using older devices have experienced slowdowns and frustration and it may hinder their learning experience.
- Consider your student's ability to carry the device along with their textbooks/class supplies.

Devices not Supported:

While many devices will work within our infrastructure there is a short list of devices that we cannot recommend for use:

- Google Chromebooks – due to the restrictive nature of the operating system, we cannot recommend Chromebooks.
- HP Devices – we have found that there are some HP models that advertise they are 5GHz capable but rely on 2.4GHz technology; they struggle with and are unable to connect to our network.
- E-Reader Tablets, such as the Barnes and Noble Nook and Amazon Kindle
- Devices smaller than 10" (including iPad Mini). Smaller devices are more difficult for students to complete work on and do not support several required programs, including MAP testing.

Additional Considerations:

- Maranatha recommends students purchase an extended warranty covering accidental damage for their device. You can also check with your homeowner's insurance policy for the purchase of additional coverage for your computer devices.
- MCA cannot assume responsibility for lost, stolen, misplaced, or broken electronic devices.
- Maranatha cannot provide tech support for individual devices, although technical difficulties related to wireless connections may be addressed by IT.
- If the student's device is not functional on occasion, a limited supply of loaner devices may be available through MCA. If a loaner device is unavailable, the student may be unable to complete the required coursework. Students who continually request loaner devices will need to purchase a new device as loaner devices are limited for a short-term basis. The student/family is responsible for the timely repair or replacement of their device.
- We strongly recommend the installation of an anti-virus and anti-malware product on laptops. Windows Defender is recommended. For Mac OS devices we recommend Symantec and Avast.

DEVICE REQUIREMENTS: 6TH-8TH GRADE

As students are building foundational technology skills using devices as a learning tool, we require a Windows-based device for your child's ease of use in the classroom.

	Windows Laptop or 2-in-1
Storage Capacity	Minimum: 128GB SSD Recommended: 256GB SSD or greater
Operating System	Windows 11
System Memory	4GB or greater
Screen Size	11-13"
Battery Life	Must last an entire school day (8 hours) Recommended: Device less than four years old
Wireless	Required 802.11ac - 5GHZ capability
Features	Full keyboard, camera, microphone Recommended: touchscreen
Additional Accessories	Recommended: protective case/cover, headphones or earbuds Optional: external mouse (wireless or USB),
Recommended Devices	Budget: Acer Aspire/TravelMate (\$379+) Dell Inspiron (\$449+) Mid-Grade: Surface Go/Laptop (\$499+) Lenovo ThinkPad/Yoga/Flex (\$499+) Microsoft Surface Laptop (\$699+) High-End: Microsoft Surface Pro (\$899+) Samsung Notebook/Galaxy Book (\$999+)

DEVICE REQUIREMENTS: 9TH-12TH GRADE

Due to increased student independence and device-specific problem-solving capabilities in 9th through 12th grade, additional device choices are available.

	Windows Laptop or 2-in-1	Apple Laptop	Apple iPad*
Storage Capacity	Minimum: 128GB SSD Recommended: 256GB SSD or greater	Minimum: 128GB SSD Recommended: 256GB SSD or greater	Minimum: 64GB Recommended: 128GB or greater
Operating System	Windows 11	macOS 13	iPad OS 16
System Memory	8GB or greater	8GB or greater	NA
Screen Size	13-15"	13-15"	11-12.9"
Battery Life	Must last an entire school day (8 hours) Recommended: Device less than four years old		
Wireless	Required 802.11ac - 5GHZ capability		
Features	Full keyboard, camera, microphone Recommended: touchscreen		
Recommended Accessories	Protective case/cover, external mouse, headphones/earbuds, keyboard		
Recommended Devices	Budget: Acer Aspire/TravelMate (\$379+) Dell Inspiron (\$449+) Mid-Grade: Surface Go/Laptop Go (\$499+) Lenovo ThinkPad/Yoga/Flex (\$499+) Microsoft Surface Laptop (\$699+) High End: Microsoft Surface Pro (\$899+) Samsung Notebook/Galaxy Book (\$999+)	High End: MacBook Air (\$999+) MacBook Pro (\$1299+)	High End: 11" iPad Pro (799+) 12.9" iPad Pro (999+)

*Many students prefer the full functionality of a laptop over an iPad. Certain PSEO and advanced elective classes may require the use of a laptop.