

Dear Spellman Parents, Guardians and Students,

December 2017

We are writing to share an update about our classroom technology and instruction. As some of you may be aware, back in 2012, Spellman was an innovative pioneer school, one of the first in the region, to adopt a 1:1 iPad Initiative. Since then, of course, many schools have followed suit, recognizing the undeniable advantages of integrating technology into the 21st century learning environment. These have been years of growth, learning and change. Five years later, as we continue to evaluate and adapt our technology program, we recognize that now is the right time to make some changes. We are responding parent input and requests, student perspective and, of course, teachers' expertise. After a good deal of investigation, discussion and strategizing, we are making some shifts and changes that will impact you, as a consumer, so thank you for taking the time to carefully read through the following bullet points:

- We will be shifting from a 1:1 iPad leasing program to a "Bring your OWN iPad" (BYOI) requirement, starting in September, 2018. Some schools have moved to BYOD (any device), but we feel that would be too much of a leap at this point, as we see the need to maintain a certain level of consistency. Spellman will no longer lease iPads to our students.
- Ultimately, this will be a cost savings for parents, as students will own their device, rather than lease it.
- There will no longer be a separate technology fee added to the overall cost of tuition
- Devices can be purchased at any location of your choice, but we strongly recommend purchasing an insurance policy/warranty, as it will be the responsibility of the purchaser to repair and replace if the device is damaged. Please see the FAQ Sheet (#3) for details outlining the guidelines for an approved Spellman iPad.
- We will have a set of iPads available in the Tech Office, should a student need to borrow a temporary loaner, while their own device is out of commission.
- All current iPads will be collected in an iPad Roll-In in June, 2018.
- Unfortunately, we are not able to sell any of our current iPads because of the devices will be out of date and at their end-of-life status, making them potentially incompatible with future upgrades and textbook purchases.

Although this change will not occur until September of 2018, we are sharing this information with you now, in case you choose to use the opportunity to purchase a device as a Christmas gift. Please be aware that the new device will not be allowed to replace the current leased iPad until next year.

As always, we are grateful to you for partnering with us to provide the best resources possible to support our ability to offer our students the very best, most relevant and engaging learning experience possible. Be assured that our teachers continue to discover effective and transforming ways to integrate technology into their curriculum goals. We hope this shift will ultimately better serve you and our students.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. David Lee, our director of Technology.

Thank you and God bless,

Paul G. Kelly
Principal

Daniel J. Hodes
President

David Lee
Director of Technology