

Which best describes your ability to use your laptop - grade 7		
A. I am able to do what I need to do on the laptops.	71.0%	76
B. I usually can do what I need to do on the laptops. I ask for help sometimes, but my technology skills don't really slow me down.	24.3%	26
C. More preparation in 5th & 6th grade would have helped me as I started using the laptops, but knowing how to use the laptops is not a problem for me now.	1.9%	2
D. More preparation in 5th & 6th grade would have helped me in using the laptops. I find that figuring out how to use the laptops or need for more keyboarding skills really slows me down.	0.9%	1
Which best describes your ability to use your laptop - grade 8		
A. I am able to do what I need to do on the laptops.	73.5%	108
B. I usually can do what I need to do on the laptops. I ask for help sometimes, but my technology skills don't really slow me down.	18.4%	27
C. More preparation in 5th & 6th grade would have helped me as I started using the laptops, but knowing how to use the laptops is not a problem for me now.	5.4%	8
D. More preparation in 5th & 6th grade would have helped me in using the laptops. I find that figuring out how to use the laptops or need for more keyboarding skills really slows me down.	2.7%	4
For both 7th and 8th grade answering C:		
2 students needed most of 7th grade to learn skills		
3 students took 2 to 3 months		
5 students took less than a month		

Comments of 7th and 8th grade students on laptops December 2005

Grade	Gender	Comments
7	F	Are we allowed to listen to music as long as it's our own CD? <input type="checkbox"/>
7	F	I basically use my laptop for school work but I also use it for MacJournal and ICal, which is great because it helps me keep track of what is going on in my life. I don't use my laptop for anything other than school other than what has been explained above.
7	F	I basicly only use my laptop for school work, i used it once for a power point presentation about my self but im not sure if thats bad!?
7	F	I don't know what I would do without this laptop. It's helpful, easy-to-use, and good for research.
7	F	I dont really care if i have laptops or not <input type="checkbox"/>
7	F	I like laptops. They are useful to my homework, and class work.
7	F	I like the laptops I think it's a lot easier having a computer at my fingertips.
7	F	I like useing my laptop.
7	F	I love my laptop
7	F	I love my laptop
7	F	I love my laptop!!!!
7	F	I LOVE THE LAPTOPS! PLEASE KEEP FUNDING THE PROGRAM!!
7	F	I love the laptops! They make assignments so much better.
7	F	I LOVE USING THE LAPTOPS!
7	F	I only use my laptop so i can write up labs, for writting, and internet. at home i listen to CD's only.
7	F	I really like my laptop!!!
7	F	I really like the laptops and they help me alot. I don't have to wait to go home and reasearch and i can type up my home work durring study hall
7	F	I think laptops are SO AWESOME to have in school and are so much better to write on, rather then pencil and having to always sharpen. Also it helps me search faster then books. so when i need good info i'm able to get it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
7	F	I think that I use my laptop very well and it helps me organize my self better.
7	F	I think that it would be really great if outside of school we were alowed to use our laptops for email-ichat-and websites that don't have anything to do with school, because we paid for the right to use these laptops so we should be able to use them for what we want to. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Laptops are wonderful in class and I think that they really help everyone keep track of school work.
7	F	I think that laptops are great!
7	F	I think that laptops are very useful. they help me with being organized and doing projects. I hope that we keep useing them because of how well they help with my school work. <input type="checkbox"/> Thanks, <input type="checkbox"/> Students Name!
7	F	I THINK THAT THE LAPTOP PROGRAM IS FANTASTIC AND I USE MINE FOR MANY DIFFERENT EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES.
7	F	i think that the laptops are a great reasource that everyone should have. <input type="checkbox"/> They make cut homework time alomst in half when it comes to writing things. <input type="checkbox"/> We learn so much more because the lessons are quicker and easier to get through becasue <input type="checkbox"/> of internet accses

Comments of 7th and 8th grade students on laptops December 2005

Grade	Gender	Comments
7	F	I THINK THAT WE SHOULD KEEP ON USING THE LAPTOPS. KEEP THEM!!
7	F	I think that you should definatley redo this program in further years. It helps me to do things I want to do withour using my home computer. IT'S A GREAT PROGRAM! it'd be nice if they were much faster though.
7	F	I think we should be able to do a little more on our laptops but they help with homework and school related stuff sometimes.
7	F	i use my laptop at home for flash mx spund studio and wrighting storys
7	F	I use my laptop for homework and to look up words in the dictionary and thesarus, plus other educational things.
7	F	I use my laptop for homework and to look up words in the dictionary and thesarus, plus other educational things.
7	F	I use my laptop to do homework, write reports, and educational games, such as Jamestown in Social Studies. I think the laptops are good, I use them a lot and they help me. I really hope I can use one in eighth grade.
7	F	it is really conveniate but it is annoying to carry it around but it's worth it <input type="checkbox"/>
7	F	it makes my life easer
7	F	it took me a while to get it but it really helps me in classes and for homework
7	F	It's hard lugging our laptops around sense they're so heavy, when sometimes we don't even use them in the class. I think that the teachers should tell us if we're using them or not so we know if we need them. It's also sometimes hard to remember them if we have to put them in a different place. Then if we do forget them we get boxes off. Other then that they are fine.
7	F	Lab tops are the best!!!! <input type="checkbox"/> Dont Take them away from us, there like our life. HThey help with every thing..
7	F	Laptops are really cool, because i like typing better than hand writing. They are good for homework too.
7	F	Maybe we should have Ultrakey so we can practice typing.
7	F	Please keep the laptops!
7	F	PLEASE LET US KEEP THE LAPTOPS!
7	F	Sometimes they take a long time to load, too many rules, but better than writing.
7	F	The apporopriate but non-educational website was approved by a teacher for use on the laptop.
7	F	the only time i listen to music is when i insert a cd..(outside of school) and using sound studio.
7	F	They have slow prossesing, there is too many rules for them, and their usful and easier than writing.
7	F	Well i was wondering weather or not we got email although only for homework questions and stuff.
7	F	welll i think that the lap tops are good to have so that we cant loose notes that we take because i dont always write them on paper but use my lap top.
7	M	i use my lap top for a lot of typeing and research
7	M	get typing media to help typing, like ultra key
7	M	i do not think that we need them that much.
7	M	I dont like having laptops!
7	M	i dont use my laptop all the time but when i leave it home i get in truoble but they enforce the rulkes to much
7	M	i liked to say the rules for laptop are enforced way to much and its foolish to be in truoble by not charging it, if i had to second guess my laptop i might have said that i would live with out my laptop.

Comments of 7th and 8th grade students on laptops December 2005

Grade	Gender	Comments
8	F	I think that laptops are great for schoolwork. Because they are so helpful I don't think that we should buy millions of really expensive books that we rarely use. We could probably find the book online anyways!
8	F	a drag is they can sometimes not work
8	F	Can i go on to sites that concern bands, musicians, and possibly e-mail my friends to ask the times for meeting then somewhere after school?(as a get together)
8	F	EMAIL!!!!!!
8	F	Having laptops is useful for classes. I think that it is a good way to stay organized and also teaches things like typing, as well as how to use a computer. I think that e-mail should be allowed for people as long as it is for educational purposes during school times. I think that we should continue to get laptops in high school to (freshmen through senior) because most people need to have laptops in college, so if we continued to have them in high school it would be good preparation.
8	F	I dont really like having the laptops, because you have to be so careful with them and they are a pain to carry around all the time. But i like having it because instead of writing on paper, you can type almost everything & for a lot of people, its easier to type then it is to write & faster.
8	F	i dont really like laptops, they are just another way to get in trpuble and pay fines. on the oher hand, laptops do help me with writing and homework and stuff like that, because i am a better typer then i am with writing by hand, so it is quicker for me to type in class then write on paper. so i like the lap tops in some ways, but in other ways they kinda are a waste of money.
8	F	I don't use my laptop other than school work.
8	F	I don't use the e-mail when I am on my laptop. If I am listening to music, it is just on iTunes 30 second song clips. I don't play games on my laptop that are not educationally-based.
8	F	I enojay using hte laptops although sometimes they cna be hard to use like if they brake and there are no spares.
8	F	i like having laptops because its easier for us to do things
8	F	i really like the lap tops they help so much & are way better then useing text books
8	F	I think that having laptops is helpful when having to do writing or other homework. This is easier because you don't have to do it at home and sometimes people don't have working computers or printers. □ There is also a bonus for teachers. Teachers don't have to try and decode the student's messy handwriting. □ Kids are also able to take notes that can't be lost as easily as notes on paper can be. It is extremely helpful for Social Studies when we are constantly taking notes and having to review them. □ Having laptops is a very good idea for people in 7th grade and up.
8	F	I think that the laptops are pointless because they're meant for easy transportation, but their home use is limited. Most of what is needed for schoolwork at home involves e-mail and internet access, both of which are denied once the laptop leaves the school building. It would be easier and more cost-efficient if there were durable, long-lasting computers (that had more than a two-year longevity) to be stationed in every classroom, and for pendrives to be provided instead of laptops. Students without home computers could stay after to access school computers or visit the community library.

Comments of 7th and 8th grade students on laptops December 2005

Grade	Gender	Comments
8	F	I think that the laptops are useful in classes, and they do help to study, and take notes, and to be more organized. Though, I also think that we can live without them. we shouldn't rely on them too much. we will not be having these for the rest of our lives. we have to learn to be organized on our own, and not rely on the technology. It also ruins our handwriting, because we are allowed to do even small writing by typing, instead of handwriting it.
8	F	i think that they helped a lot & give you so much more info then a text book can .. new things are being added every day to the internet .. but in a text book its written once in that text book & they cant change it i think that the lap tops are great & really helped me get through the 7th grade year & will help me get through the 8th grade year & hopefully through some of high school.
8	F	I think that they should keep the program running
8	F	I think the laptops are very helpful for doing work and typing up essays and <input type="checkbox"/> homework, i mostly use it for internet research though because it is so convenient. <input type="checkbox"/> The problem is some people dont have wireless internet at home so it is difficult for <input type="checkbox"/> them to use their internet at home so they must use their home computer. <input type="checkbox"/> Overall, i think the laptops are a HUGE help and i think people are learning about <input type="checkbox"/> technology and how to use computers in help to prepare them for college. :-)
8	F	I think we should be able to use e-mail for educational purposes only. <input type="checkbox"/> Having the e-mail is also useful for most of my classes, especially Spanish because there is a website we go to daily.
8	F	i think we should keep the laptops because there are certain things that we can do on them that we can't do at home or in school. Also it helps preserve trees!
8	F	I use email to email my parents only, so it's not like i'm doing anything bad. In my pod, the teachers wont let us have our school-based email for some reason even though the other pod gets to have it.
8	F	I use my laptop a lot in class because it is a very useful tool to help me get organized.
8	F	i use my laptop alot and it really is a helpful learning tool. i was sad to learn we dont get laptops as sophomores.
8	F	I use my laptop very frequently however i cannot get online sometimes due to the condition of the server and or other laptop related troubles. i also find that the children that our laptops are not really what we were promised and although they are extremely useful our teachers could afford to be a bit more leniant with the laptop rules like when our laptop is broken. many of the times we cant help the fact that our computers have crashed, but we still are yelled at.
8	F	If we had more preparation in the maintaining of our computers then we may not feel so inadequate later on in our schooling. But many times its just as well because of the students that are more tech savvy can help us when they are allowed.
8	F	I'm going to miss having one in high school!
8	F	It is easy to use the laptop.
8	F	It really annoys me about how many times we need to send our laptop to Mr.Faverau because its broken. Because of this, we are put behind on work, and that could bring down our grades a bit.
8	F	laptops are very helpful and educational

Comments of 7th and 8th grade students on laptops December 2005

Grade	Gender	Comments
8	F	Laptops really aren't that great. They break constantly, we aren't mature enough to handle them completely, and everyone breaks the rules like email for "educational purposes only". that isnt how our minds work. you tell us not to do something, we are prone to doing it. Yes, typing is more efficient i suppose than writing, but i think we as kids should learn the skills of writing first before moving on to technology. because before you know it, we will all be completely dependent on technology and when something goes wrong, everyone will go into a panic and won't know what to do, when all youn would have to do is pick up a pen and paper and do it by hand. i think being dependent on technology is not what we need right now. and instead of wasting your time and money on how to teach kids to use them and such, we should be learning. which we are but i think we are loosing valuable time in classes by having to deal with them and i doubt our teachers like to have to send us to the "computer guy" every ten minutes when in fact we should be learning from our teachers. let's not waste time any longer. thank you.
8	F	not needed
8	F	So why cant we email friends to ask them social questions like "When should i meet you there? What Time? Is (A Person) coming?"
8	F	Thank you.
8	F	the laptop program is good and i think having it continue would be nice for up soming students ... but is it really what we need most right now, what we should be spending our tax money on? or are there more immortant things like the well fair of the people in our community. just a thought for all you out there.
8	F	the laptops are a great educational tool, but as with all technology, they make life easier and more complex at the same time. I strongly hope that the program is used throughout the high school, they will make life at school easier.
8	F	the laptops are really helpful when we want to take fast notes or type things faster because a lot of people can type faster than they write
8	F	The question that asks us to rank the statement "Having a laptop helps me learn" is irrelevant to me. True, in classes that used the laptops as a tool I did learn, but it makes no difference whether it is a laptop or a regular computer.
8	F	To be honest, laptops are pointless because they all break or are going to break.
8	F	truley, i use my laptop almost every day and since i have trouble organizing its a good place to store my papers□
8	F	and such. though the laptops to break freakwently and offend cause problems for students
8	F	ummmm..... i like laptops :-D
8	F	Well i dont liek having the labtops i like writing things out, and i never use the labtops i usually write papers at home.
8	F	will we get email, liek the other pod?
8	M	A very good program to have and would set teachers back 3 years in how they used to teach and having to handwrite everything. The laptop is becoming a necessity in our school
8	M	As you can see, I said that it was neutral for learning with the laptops. I did just as good without one in 5th and 6th grade. I really don't think we need these laptops. In some cases, it makes it harder to do things. And a lot of people lose things on their laptops if it breaks, shuts down, anything along those lines. I think it would be best if we just stuck with paper and pencil.
8	M	But charger case can be easily fall out
8	M	COOOOOOOOL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
8	M	get new laptops!
8	M	get rid of them

Comments of 7th and 8th grade students on laptops December 2005

Grade	Gender	Comments
8	M	Having a laptop may not help very much with learning new information, unless you use the internet, but it does very much help in teaching students to use technology
8	M	hmmmmmmmm.... comments
8	M	I also sometimes do use it to administrate the school message board that I am running for the school.
8	M	I constantly use my laptop for note taking and it is very useful since I can type much faster than I can write.
8	M	i don't think that the laptops are worth ALL OF THE HASSEL.
8	M	I hate laptops!!!!!!
8	M	i have developed pretty good keyboard skills now, but more prep in 5th of 6th grade would have helped
8	M	I know a lot about the laptops, and I often help the teachers!
8	M	i like to use the laptops because it makes doing writing and research much faster but i dont like the fact that they are so slow sometimes when you are using multiple applications at one time. some of my applications dont work so i have to use different programs to do what i want.
8	M	I love my laptop and it is a great tool for education, i use my home computer for fun things, I think the laptop program should go from 7-12th grade. The laptop program is excellent and the computers are a great alternative to not only dictionary's, theasurueses, encicolpedia, and text books. I like Mac's laptops because not only are they welllll designed but they are getting better and better even though i have a 4 year old laptop i can't imagine the improvments to next year G4 laptops. I do know how ever that many kids abuse the laptops although i can not imagine why, it has given me skillls such a typing and finding reliable sources, and safe web search. Also in the futere it would be great because i understand computers better and know how to positivly take advatage of them in making me not only exceed in school acedemics but saving me time in looking things up. I think the laptop program is the besthing to happpen yet.The Mac's prepare us for in the future with many skills. I think Mac. Makes the best computers both in design and in programing, and when people relize that you don't need 89 buttons on your remote to your dell computer,
8	M	i love them
8	M	I think for those who struggle to use the laptops you should have a otional course after school so that they can learn to better use them. I also think at home you should be allowed to go on appropriate un-school related websites, if you don't delete your history or go on them during school.
8	M	I think laptops are best for note taking and internet. In my opinion all of the other school stuff I use it for is because I have the laptop. For example, most of the assignments I need to do on the computer are assigned because I have the computer.
8	M	I think our laptops are very helpful in school. Being able to do work at home and researching on the internet are really useful.
8	M	I think that it would help if we had more preperation in 5th and 6th grade, because it would take less time to take out of class time to explain how to use the program, document, spreadsheet, etc.
8	M	I think that the chargers should stay in the lugs better.

Comments of 7th and 8th grade students on laptops December 2005

Grade	Gender	Comments
8	M	We definitely need to keep the laptops they expand our learning outside the classroom and get us ready for the real world. Wit theb laptops we'll get out of high school knowing how to do a powerpoint presentation, knmowing how to do a excel spread sheet, these are call things we need to know to make it in thbe real world.
8	M	We definitely need to keep the laptops they expand our learning outside the classroom and get us ready for the real world. Wit theb laptops we'll get out of high school knowing how to do a powerpoint presentation, knmowing how to do a excel spread sheet, these are call things we need to know to make it in thbe real world.
8	M	we need email
		LET US KEEP OUR LAPTOPS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
		Please Let Us Have Them Next Year!!

Frequency of Use in Class	Percent	Raw #
Daily	20.4%	22
Several Times Per Week	13.0%	14
About Once Per Week	11.1%	12
Irregularly	29.6%	32
Never	20.4%	22
Left Blank	4.6%	5
Frequency of Use for Homework		
Daily	14.8%	16
Several Times Per Week	11.1%	12
About Once Per Week	10.2%	11
Irregularly	42.6%	46
Never	14.8%	16
Left Blank	5.6%	6
Having Laptops helps me to learn		
Strongly Agree	17.6%	19
Agree	17.6%	19
Neutral	29.6%	32
Disagree	19.4%	21
Strongly disagree	13.9%	15
I want to continue the laptop program in 10th grade next year		
Strongly Agree	28.7%	31
Agree	11.1%	12
Neutral	20.4%	22
Disagree	13.0%	14
Strongly disagree	22.2%	24

Use of Laptops outside of Class	Percent	Raw #
Out of class Notes	18.5%	20
Games	0.9%	1
Calculator	9.3%	10
Spreadsheet	3.7%	4
Database	1.9%	2
Writing	29.6%	32
Research on Internet	22.2%	24
Web authoring	2.8%	3
Presentation	8.3%	9
iMovie	0.9%	1
Calendar	4.6%	5
iPhoto	0.9%	1
Other	11.1%	12
Non academic games	7.4%	8
Web mail	6.5%	7
Chat	1.9%	2
Listening to music	25.0%	27
Garageband	8.3%	9
Appropriate non school related web sites	14.8%	16
Inappropriate non school related web sites	0.9%	1
Multimedia authoring	7.4%	8
Other	3.7%	4

Gender	Comments
F	Having a laptop is helpful sometimes but I don't feel that we use it enough to have to deal with carrying them around and bringing them to class when we don't use them.
F	i <3 laptops
F	I absolutely hate the laptop program. We never use them and when we do, it is always busy work. No body uses the laptops and they are just a burden. I definately don't think we should continue them in 10 grade!!
F	I admit to doing some things that I shouldn't've done, but that was a while ago, and it won't happen again.
F	I don't like laptops, we don't use them enough to need them, when a teacher needs his/her students to use computers we have library computers or home computers, please no laptops next year!!
F	I don't like the laptops at all.
F	i don't really care what happens.
F	I dont really use my labtop in highshcool like i did in middle school. I dont really think they are worth keeping for 10th grade.
F	I feel gracious for the laptops but also feel that they aren't necessary especially now that we are in high school. They are just heavy to carry around and we barely use them. Also we get detentions if we dont bring them so it's like we have to bring them everyday even though we never use them.
F	I have found this to be completely useless. It's nothing but hassle, really. I hate Macs, this computer is unacceptably slow, as is the school wireless connection. The game I like to play is barely even worth playing because it lags too much. When I listen to music, I don't even bother to try doing anything else, because it can only seem to do one thing at once. Also, it leaves marks on my CDs after I play them in it. I would be much happier if no one got these. They are bad.
F	I never use my laptop and i think they are a waste to own and extra weight for you to carry around in your backpack to not even use it.
F	I think that if the teacher knew how to use the laptops and were given instructions on how to incorporate them into the ciriculum, then there would be more use of them and they would be a better use of money. Also, I think that if there were people watching what the students did, then I think that the laptop program would be better.
F	I think that laptops are nice to have in middle school, but in the high school they arent as necessary because I only use it for note taking and writing pieces that i can write on my home computer. I feel that there are better ways to spend the high school budget. I do think that maybe we could have a system where people could check out laptops if necessary, but not every individual needs one.
F	I think that we do not use the laptops as much as we did in 7th and 8th grade. I would rather use pen and paper because it is easier to have everything in one spot.
F	I think the laptops are a good idea, but not many teachers use them. For example only one of my teachers has us use it and we've only used it twice in that class. I think that next year the money would be better spent on something other then the laptops. Mqaybe instead of having laptops for every freshmen, you could just have laptops that students may check out for a day or week or something, for writting assignments.
F	I think the laptops are helpful when it comes to writing essays and other class assignments, but they get in the way and are a waste to carry around all day.
F	I think the use of laptops could increase if we had more asignments in class that required computer use. Such as sites that you could acess during class to help with lesson or just notetaking.
F	I think we should use the laptops in class a LOT more. It's hard to carry around our laptops everyday and not know whether we will need them or not.

Gender	Comments
F	I use my laptop every day but almost never or school
F	In middle school, we used the laptops more and now that I have come to the High school we don't seem to use the laptops at all. I hate having to bring them home, then to school and I know that I won't need them. The only class I use them in is English. Even then we don't use them very much, I would rather have a pen drive that I have to bring everywhere then a bulky laptop. We could just use the school computers. So I don't want to have the laptops next year, I think their just a wast of money. I mean keep them if were going to use them more, but if not, I don't want them.
F	It seems the laptops have become more of a hinderence then a help because the teachers don't have us use them very much in class. The only things I use my laptop for are things that I could just as easily do at home without having to carry around the extra equipment.
F	KEEP THE LAPTOPS!
F	LAPTIOPS ARE BAD
F	Laptops have helped us to be able to do to do work at home. It has allowed us to be able to take our work with us when so it is more convenient. It has made english class especialy more efficient because It allows us to work on longer assignments (essays and paper) during school or afterschool. It allows us to get more work done in less time so there is more time left for other sports, other homework and friends.
F	no laptops next year theyre hard to deal with and annoying
F	The classes in high school don't create classes that revolve around the laptops, so we never really use them.
F	the laptops are greast but we havent really used them yet an i think if we should lug them around to all of out classes we should at least use them? Right now ther a pain
F	The only class that i have used my laptop is in English and it was two or three times. I don't think we should waste the money on them when we hardly use them.
F	there are just something else to worry about.
F	they're a waste of friggin money
F	Throughout this year I rarely use my laptop. Next year I wo uld love to have a laptop but I never use it. There is no point in having a laptop if we are not using it. I don't mind having a laptop but there isno point because I never use it. It seems like a waste of money sometimes.
M	I believe that the money used on laptops could be spent on other more important things. Classes aren't based around using laptops, so we are constantly carrying around all this extra weight. Our assignments are not based on using laptops either, and a hassle to carry from home to school. It's just another responsibility that we don't need.
M	I defintlay think that we should speand are money on good laptops, becuae mine sees to break all the time.□
M	I find the laptops to be very useful in my learning, here at FHS. I feel the the laptop prgram is very useful and should be continued
M	I hate the laptops. They were useful in the middle school, but are a complete waste of time once it is in the Highschool.
M	i like laptops
M	i need one because if I dont get one i will have to buy one myself because i have a learing dissability
M	I really think that the laptops are just a waste of money because i never use mine. I mean people might use theirs but personaly i think they are just a hassle and just a extra responsibility that we dont need. They weigh you down and i think that we could just use textbooks and the computers we have at home instead of having a seperate computer
M	I think laptops are good for organization with my wriiting.
M	I think that if we have laptops, then we should actually use them in class once a day.

Gender	Comments
M	I think that the laptop program is an excellent tool to help teach and learn. I can't express my believe enough that the program should continue into 10th grade.
M	I think that the laptops are helpful but they arnt used enough during the ninth grade to have them. I have only used them like 8 times in 3 months.
M	I think the haveing a laptop is the biggest waist of money i have every heard of!!!!
M	I think we should have laptops, because many of us need them to do our schoolwork and if we had to buy them, I know that I couldn't afford one. If the survey data says no, I think that students should get the choice to have them. I KNOW THAT I NEED IT AND WOULD WANT ONE 10TH GRADE.
M	no laptops they are slow and a pain
M	sweet
M	The laptop prgram is such a step forward through technology. Even if the laptops are not used as mch in class as many believe, having a constant source of information and technology with a laptop is an incredible advantage that can not be subsituted with mere pen drives. The future is based around this technology and a constant source of technology is worth 75 more computers.
M	THE LAPTOPS ARE GREAT TO LEARN!
M	<p>The laptops are the GREATEST THINGS EVER. Don't listen to the kids who think they're stupid. They'll be in for a rude awakening when they are taken away in the 10th grade. BELIEVE IT!<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>As proof of their worth, here is an example. I am very unorginized normally, but the laptop allows me to organize with ease. Thanks MLTI!</p>
M	<p>These latops are really a big help with organization. I find them VERY useful and connect me to technology. I am now very computer literate. I can pick any laptop or computer and understand how to use it. These let us be able to keep our own information and not worry about loosing data with the exchages of laptops between many students. The program should be continued because they extend our knowledge and with give us an advantage in the real world<input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>thank you</p>
M	They are nice to have, but not particularly useful. They are also over restricted.
M	Waste of money.
M	we dont use laptops to there full potential within classes or at home and it is ultimatley a waste of money
M	We dont use them as much as we did in middle school.
blank	I think since we don't use our laptops very much at all that they aren't very useful.

Grade 9 Laptop Use Discussion Guide – Compilation of responses from 7 advisor classes

Please return to Sue Palfrey by December 9, 2005

Advisors took notes while students responded and returned the guide. The following is a compilation of all the notes.

As we plan the technology budget for 06-07, we are evaluating student use of school laptops at the high school. Your feedback is important in helping us make decisions.

In answering these questions please think about:

- How you use a computer as an organizational tool
- How you use a computer to access information
- How you use a computer to present or show what you have learned
- How you use a computer for communication purposes
- How you use a computer for recreational purposes

What are the advantages of having a laptop that is signed out specifically to you? (one computer for every student scenario)

- doing homework during study hall
- using Notetaker in English and Social Studies
- not having to share a home computer
- don't have to rely on library
- no fighting at home for computer use
- able to use computer in one's bedroom
- obnoxious to have to save to server or pen drive
- access to information whenever needed
- ease of use at home and school (no transfer necessary)
- There is never a shortage of laptops.
- You can download music.
- You can look up info quickly instead of library.
- If you don't like your handwriting, you can type – especially helpful for people with dysgraphia.
- Can email teachers and friends
- You always have time to work on it, a calendar for assignments, take notes, learn valuable tech skills – complete homework.
- “None”
- Can read my writing
- Easier to type than write
- free pen drive
- can type things up in study hall
- All work in one place
- Internet access anytime.
- Essays and printing
- Guaranteed accessibility to technology
- Encyclopedia access
- word processing access
- email
- calculator

What are the disadvantages?

- sits in locker (2)
- Made to bring it to class/ not used (4)
- only used in English
- not used in lessons by team

- pain to have to carry it around – heavy in addition to books – scoliosis issues (7)
- waste of money – not used to full potential
- waste of money because everyone has computer at home
- Charger case is a hassle (doesn't fit)
- big responsibility – fear of losing it (3)
- abused – people use for recreational purposes
- lack of compatibility with home computer
- Windows better than Mac
- Laptops not incorporated into 9th grade curriculum
- Printing situation – only 2 – get jammed
- Should be able to print at home
- You have to worry/stress about it.
- You can't use it for purposes outside of school.
- They break a lot. 2
- They are slow. 2
- Server can crash..
- Loses charge easily
- Doesn't turn on
- Charged for minor problems sometimes with large expense (2)
- No choice – have to take it
- more ways to get in trouble
- more work

Do you use your laptop differently in high school than middle school? If so, how?

- Middle School teachers made better use of the laptops in some classes
- There are some students who don't have them in class in the HS.
- In middle school we researched in class, took notes, did lab reports in class
- Middle School teachers told you the class before if you needed it.
- It seems less convenient in high school
- In high school these things are done outside of class
- Teachers in the HS don't use it as much.
- Don't use it in the HS – unnecessary here
- More assignments used laptops in MS
- Not used as much in HS, especially in classes
- Others use it more for homework in HS, in part because more comfortable with it (know more – computer knowledge expanded)
- used more recreationally in the HS
- fewer rules so more experimentation
- Can use it more socially at the high school.
- More busy work in the MS
- Broke in 8th grade all the time – better one this year
- Less strict in HS – can surf sites more freely
- used a lot less in the high school
- email this year
- We mainly use it for music and word processing.
- We have not been using it during class time,
- We definitely do not use it as much as we did in middle school.
- A pen drive to carry, instead of a computer, makes a lot of sense.

Could the same advantages be accomplished by another scenario such as bringing your own laptop from home or having a pen drive to take your work to and from your home computer to carts of laptops in some classes? (Grade 10 students have laptops available in English. The two biology teachers share a cart as do the geometry teachers.)

- a pen drive gets lost – easy to lose
- not enough people have laptops at home
- pen drive less convenient; doesn't work in some home computers; easily lost
- Student who is in Bio and Geometry says laptop carts work well.
- Programs on school laptops (PowerPoint) not on home computers
- risk of introducing virus to school network
- Non-compatible programs are problematic.
- Not everyone has a laptop at home.
- Not with the pen drive – all you can do is save files.
- You still need a computer to use the pen drive.
- You have to share the computer at home.
- Use your own laptop if you want one.
- Juniors and seniors have more work and don't use them.
- Sign out a laptop if you want to use one.
- Some students have their own laptops.
- Pen drives work better.
- Carts are ok.
- few laptops at home and not available to bring in
- We would not mind checking out computers when we need them.
- We don't see any advantages for having our own individual computer.
- It might be harder for administration to keep track of repairs.

What are your thoughts about continuing the 1:1 laptop program in 10th grade (we would need approximately 75 more computers in order to do this)?

- Advisor #1 –4 for yes; 10 for no
- not necessary – not used enough to justify expense; if needed we could use cart
- only used for homework, not in class
- great resource but not needed
- continue if teachers are educated in how to incorporate them into classroom
- continue only if most current technology
- constant source of info is worth the cost of 75 new computers
- laptop superior to home computer
- Advisor #2 – 7 people yes; 5 people no; 1 absent
- Advisor #3 – 6 students want to keep program, 5 stop program, 2 undecided
- Advisor #4 - 2 yes; 12 no
- Advisor #5 - We believe that a laptop in 10th grade for every student will not be a useful expenditure of school money. We would prefer to share laptops, and have our own pen drives.

Students should also fill out the online survey at:

<http://cf.fps.k12.me.us:8500/fps/techsurvdec05gr9/index.cfm> (It is also linked from the Falmouth High School main page: <http://www.falmouthschools.org> – then follow the high school link.)

Grade 10 Student Responses	Strongly disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly Agree (5)	N is 68	Average
1. I preferred students having a school laptop available to use at all times as our students have in 7th through 9th grade.	18	3	16	8	21		3.17
2. Laptop carts in classes, the library, and lab computers, combined with our family's computer(s) and a pen drive provide me with satisfactory access to technology to support my learning.	5	7	10	23	22		3.74
Grade 10 Parent Responses						N is 27	
1. I preferred students having a school laptop available to use at all times as our students have in 7th through 9th grade.	3	6	3	1	11		3.45
2. Laptop carts in classes, the library, and lab computers, combined with our family's computer(s) and a pen drive provide me with satisfactory access to technology to support my learning.	0	3	6	8	8		3.76

10th Grade Student Comments on Laptop Use December 2005

Comments	Parent or Student
I like having them for some things, but I don't need one all of the time	Student
I wish we could have them during study hall to use on our own and complete our work before we get home.	Student
we should keep it the way it is without having our own individual laptop, but carts that make them available. Having the responsibility for taking care of your own laptop is too great and we hardly ever used them enough when we did have our own.	Student
I liked when I could start and finish work on the same computer at home and at school. laptops=fun fun fun	Student
The computer carts work well for all needed classroom use, without the burden of having to carry a laptop between all classes. We have used the computers for essay writing and research in English, which supplements the learning well.	Student
we don't really use them	Student
I think the access to technology that tenth graders have is fine the way it is right now.	Student
internet	Student
I liked having laptops, but I hated to carry it around.	Student
I like that I can type the words when I'm writing essays in class. I also like that I can look up information from internet than books in any class that needs researches.	Student
I use mine for essay writing, which is very helpful.	Student
I enjoyed having access to the laptops for typing and research, etc. but I disliked having to carry them from class to class.	Student
Having to type documents for school that need to be typed are a lot easier to type on the laptops and then print at school. Printing at home with my home computer is a chore, because our computers are awful. Just having a pen drive isn't enough because the pen drive is only used to save data that we typed on a computer from the cart and will never use again. I really hope we'll each have our own computers next year.	Student
I really liked having a laptop provided by the school because it made schoolwork easier and school technology was more accessible. I was able to collect all of my files instead of sending them back and forth to and from school. The carts are better than nothing, but the individual laptops worked best for organization.	Student
I have a laptop of my own, and use it frequently for various school-related purpose, such as research, web browsing, and word processing, as well as reaction uses at home. I found that a laptop greatly improved my organizational skills and was a very valuable tool in my learning, which inspired me to buy one of my own. I think the program was and continues to be an excellent idea that is well worth the cost.	Student
If laptops continued to be distributed to our grade Would use them and they would be helpful, but I am fine without them and they are not a necessity to me.	Student
Its too drastic a change to go from full laptop use everywhere to use in classroom "carts" to be effective. Currently, there is no difference between this system and the older "computer lab" style. I used the laptop both as an organizational and typing tool, able to use almost everywhere. I can no longer use it at all to these ends anymore, nor can I use it anywhere near how I would like to. That saying, I always liked the laptops, and didn't mind bringing them around and sorts.	Student

10th Grade Student Comments on Laptop Use December 2005

Comments	Parent or Student
I have my own laptop so I personally find them unnecessary.	Student
The carts in the class room aren't being taken care of by the teaches as well as we would have hoped the teachers need to take a stronger role in taking care of the carts instead of relying on the students to clean the carts every week	Student
I like having computers in the class room but not to take home and to carry to each class	Student
I used my laptop to pretty much do the word processing and do projects but other than that I see no use in bringing home a laptop	Student
I use to use it for almost all my schoolwork but now we don't have them and my grades have dropped as a consequence!!!	Student
I don't like having a pen drive, because I can lose it easily and have to replace it for \$50	Student
I haven't really used the laptops. I usually use them in English class, and mostly use the library computer	Student
I use it for school projects.	Student
not a fan of laptops	Student
They were cool at first, but then they were just a bother. There were way to many restrictions so we couldn't use them for much. It wasn't worth all the pain of lugging them everywhere.	Student
laptops are a waste of money.	Student
I think that the way it is now with access to them if we choose is the best way that we've tried so far.	Student
laptops were aggravating	Student
laptops aren't good	Student
I find the setup this year very difficult.	Student