



Gladewater ISD
Vision 2020

July 14, 2009

Dear Students and Parents:

Gladewater ISD is proud to initiate the Gladewater ISD Vision 2020 Laptop program. This optional program loans a school-owned MacBook laptop computer to students for school and home use. MacBooks will be an important tool for student learning. Teachers will often use the MacBooks for classroom instruction and will assign homework and projects that will require students to use the MacBooks. Access to the Internet will allow students access to much more information than would be available through a textbook or other classroom materials.

For students to gain maximum benefit from the laptop computers, they will need to use them at home as well as school. The computers are an expensive instructional tool and therefore are covered with insurance through Student Insurance Partners. See enclosed information for complete insurance information.

The first Laptop Rollout will occur sometime during the first two weeks of school. To participate, the following conditions must be met by August 20, 2009. Students not completing these requirements by the deadline will not receive their laptop during the initial Laptop Rollout. An additional Laptop Rollout date will be scheduled at a later time.

1. Student must be eligible according to the enclosed Eligibility statement.
2. An annual, non-refundable laptop use fee of \$60 must be paid to the school OR approved Fee Waiver Form must be received by the August 20 deadline. Pay your fee at the Administration building from now until the beginning of school. You may also pay your fee during registration on August 10-11-13-14.
3. Student and parent must attend one of the following Parent Orientation meetings held at the High School Auditorium:

Parent Orientation Meetings

Thursday, August 6, 6:30 p.m.

Monday August 10, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 15, 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, August 18, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 20, 6:30 p.m.

4. Student and parent must agree to abide by all conditions outlined in the Student/Parent Laptop Agreement, GHS Laptop Policies Agreement, and the Student Technology Acceptable Use Policy and turn in signed forms to the High School office by the August 20 deadline. Draft copies of these documents are enclosed. Final copies will be signed during the Parent Orientation meeting.
5. All required paperwork filled out and returned by August 20 deadline.
6. Student must attend Student Laptop Training before they will receive the laptop. This training will be held during the regular school day of the designated "Laptop Rollout Day".

Parents and students are encouraged to complete the required conditions as soon as possible so your laptop will be ready for the first Laptop Rollout.

An Internet connection at home will be beneficial to students, but is not required. Information about Internet Service Providers is enclosed. These service providers are prepared to provide Internet to your home at a low monthly cost. The laptop computers will have many uses at home without internet access, but the students' ability to get full benefit from their assigned computer will be much greater if they have Internet access.

We hope that you share our excitement of being able to offer the laptop computers as an instructional resource to our students and teachers at Gladewater ISD. The impact on teaching and learning will be enormous. Our students will gain access to up-to-date information and will be able to use this information to enhance learning. In addition, their technology skills will increase and better prepare them for higher education and the workforce. As with any new initiative, there will be constant assessment and necessary changes to make this program work to the maximum benefit of our students. We are committed to that goal.

Please refer to the enclosed materials for complete information about this program.

Sincerely,

Suzie Lambert
Principal