

Dear Families,

We wanted to give you an update on what the Technology Committee has been up to on your behalf. This winter we conducted a teacher survey to find out what hardware and software our teachers have and what they would like for their classrooms. At Assumption, a typical classroom was identified which has been beneficial in developing a replacement plan for our computer hardware, and a budget. We have allocated \$30k for technology at WWCS. At Assumption we will be purchasing touch chromebooks in the K-2 building to replace the iPads. These iPads will be repurposed for classes such as journalism and art. At DeSales we are adding 5 PC's and 5 Mac's to complete a class set for the computer classes, along with upgrades to the DeSales math computer memory capacity, and to get a document camera for teachers who requested one.

The Board did approve \$40k this year for technology replacement, and we have decided to reserve some funds for any unforeseen items that might arise midyear. Some software renewals fundamental to safe web surfing have already been earmarked at this time.

In our survey, teachers conveyed a need for software training, specifically in the use of Google Classrooms. Thanks to Mrs. Gogl, we held a training in late September with an alumnus, who does similar work for the public schools. In addition, we have peer-to-peer training that takes place between our educators for specific needs. We are ever so thankful for their collaboration and sharing of time and talents.

We realize that our families each have a different comfort level with the amount of technology their students use at school and at home. There is no doubt that technology will play a major role in our children's futures and most will need to use many different computer tools. In the end, it is only a tool, one which must be leveraged by teachers to effectively enhance the learning already being done in the classroom.

Andrea Renholds  
Technology Committee Chair and WWCS Board Vice-Chair