



Wiregrass Ranch High School
2909 Mansfield Boulevard
Wesley Chapel, Florida 33543
(813) 346-6000 FAX: (813) 346-6091

Principal – Robyn White
Assistant Principal: Shaunte Butcher • Assistant Principal: Jimmy DuBose
Assistant Principal: Cindy Jack • Assistant Principal: Christy Rankin • Assistant Principal: Diamela Vergne

March 24, 2013

Dear Parents,

In the 2014-15 school year, Wiregrass Ranch High School will continue to expand our technology usage plan that incorporates iPads in place of traditional textbooks for students. This initiative builds on the evidence that engaging and innovative learning environments are needed to connect with today's students and prepare them for tomorrow's world. Teachers will use the iPad to engage students in a way that was never possible before, leading to learning curriculum in new ways. Students will use their iPads, instead of textbooks, with wireless internet access at school, and while at home they can use their iPads in addition to their home computer.

A pilot group of students started this program in the 2011-2012 school year, with a high percentage of success. Students and parents should be aware that this program takes a lot of work, but it is well worth it in the end. Our current students and parents see an increase in technology skills, organization, time management and collaboration skills.

A group of students will be selected for this expansion and your child has been selected as an eligible candidate for the program. If chosen, your child will be expected to complete most assignments on his/her iPad in each academic class. In addition, your child would have to agree to take an online class through Pasco eSchool or FLVS (preferably HOPE or Personal Fitness/Lifestyle Fitness Design).

Research shows students with interested and involved parents demonstrate better educational outcomes. To obtain positive parent support I will use a combination of communication tactics, including written documentation, parent meetings and one-on-one discussions. There would be a few mandatory parent meetings to collect data and feedback, provide important information, and give parent trainings. If chosen, your child will have use of the iPad 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. With this in mind, we would ask that parents purchase a theft/damage policy (est. \$55 per year) to cover any incidents (does not cover negligent theft).

Initial student training will involve care and maintenance of the iPads, explanation of student-user agreement, device familiarization in the academic setting and cyber safety program. This training will take place before the iPads are provided to the students for home use. In addition, there would be further student training on specific apps that are necessary for the success of this program. All trainings would take place on Tuesday July 22, 29 and August 5 and would allow students the ability to acclimate to the iPads prior to school starting.

If you and your child are interested in participating in this program, please complete and submit the application located on the front of the WRHS website no later than May 1, 2014.

Thank you,

Christy Rankin
Assistant Principal
crankin@pasco.k12.fl.us