
TIPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of School Trustees

FROM: Kevin Emsweller, Superintendent

DATE: MAY 11, 2020

RE: **Student Computing Devices**

TCSC has used Apple computers since technology first came into the schools. One line of thought is that Windows based technology is advocated for office use, while the Apple platform provides that but also an added platform for creativity by the user.

When TCSC ventured into one-to-one computing, the decision was made to use Apple's MacBook Air rather than iPads. Even though they were more expensive, there were definite advantages for students - longer battery life, durability, retention of value, application better fitting for post high school life to name a few.

Recently, with the consultation of Five-Star Technologies, the question of maintaining the MacBook Air or switching to Chromebook was discussed. While Chromebook would provide less expense up front, the advantage of using the MacBook Air outweighs the cost-savings benefits.

The board has expressed an interest in pursuing this issue for future considerations. It is recommended that a committee be formed to study the issue of using Apple's MacBook Air or some other computing device and make a recommendation to the school board no later than the November 10, 2020 school board meeting. This committee can be composed of the current TCSC Technology Committee with the addition of additional members appointed by the school board. Two of these additional members of this committee should be members of the school board. This committee should be formed and begin their work no later than August 21, 2020 to make its recommendation to the board.