

BATH COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

AGENDA ITEM: INFORMATION { X }                      ACTION { }                      CLOSED MEETING { }

SUBJECT:                      SUPERINTENDENT’S PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

Student Tablet Initiative Update – Mr. Lancaster

BACKGROUND:                      Students and teachers in grades 6 – 9 are participating in a new tablet technology program that supports 21<sup>st</sup> Century teaching and learning. Kuno tablets have been issued to individual students in the “1:1” program; they use the devices in school during the day, any necessary homework is downloaded to the machines while at school, and then devices are taken home for after-school use and charging. No home internet access is required.

We have partnered with Curriculum Loft Corporation to manage our use of the tablets. Teachers upload classroom documents, videos, web links, etc. to a private course/class website that students are able to access. We anticipate that this process will increasingly be used to limit the amount of textbook and other support materials that students will need to bring home from school. Curriculum Loft also provides a device management system that allows school staff to control what applications are loaded on the devices. Each machine is specifically set up for one student, and is password protected.

Teachers were provided inservice on the use of the devices and the Curriculum Loft online resources, and were then given time—and support—to begin to prepare for student use. Students were provided an orientation, and the devices are making their way into classroom instruction. Part-time School Instructional Technology Resource Teachers remain available to support teachers. Additional professional development will follow.

Primary grade students in both elementary schools have limited access to tablets in a new pilot program that is just now getting started. These machines will be used at school only.