March 2019

Dear Middle School Parents and Students,

The Derryfield School is pleased to extend the Middle School’s one-to-one iPad program in the 2019-2020 school year. A single, ubiquitous device allows students and teachers the opportunity to learn together. This tool complements our long-standing educational philosophy which values the student-teacher relationship. The iPad program has had an impact in numerous areas including the access to and delivery of material, the exchange of work and feedback, the development of organizational skills, and the cultivation of essential 21st century technological skills.

As you may know, Apple offers many types of iPads. When considering what size to buy, the decision is personal. We suggest the 9.7” model with the A10 fusion chip at 32 GB or 128 GB; an overview may be found at https://www.apple.com/ipad-9.7. If you wish to purchase an iPad Pro, it is an acceptable alternative to the 9.7” model with the A10 fusion chip. An iPad Mini is not acceptable due to its screen size.

Many students and teachers have found an external keyboard to be very helpful for word processing. A case, which can include a keyboard, offers some protection for the iPad and would be a wise acquisition. We highly recommend purchasing AppleCare+ but it is not required.

Students in 8th grade may choose to move towards the device of choice program used by the upper school.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Mia Ek, Technology Integrationist, at mek@derryfield.org or at 603.226.4524 ext. 2221 or Michael Beesley, Director of Technology, at mbeesley@derryfield.org or 603.669.4524, ext. 2242. We appreciate your support in helping us deliver a dynamic, engaging learning experience to our bright, motivated students.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Blaisdell
Head of Middle School