



St. Mary's Academy

MAGNIFY THE LORD

Grades 6 – 12 Device Specifications

Last Revised: June 22, 2022

Dear Parent & Student Community

My name is Dr. Brent Hollers, and I will be the new Director of IT for St. Mary's Academy. I am excited about this new opportunity and the future of STEM at SMA!

As we move into the new school year, many of you will be planning to purchase a device for your student. While St. Mary's Academy is a BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) school, we are shifting our focus towards Chromebooks as our device of choice.

If you are not familiar with Chromebooks, they are a Google product that offers many benefits to our students, faculty, and staff:

- They are traditionally much lower in cost than other devices (Windows and Mac) and are lower in cost to repair.
- They offer greater protection against viruses, phishing, and technology scams.
- They provide greater content and privacy filters, especially when students are on campus.
- They allow us to protect your investment by locking and locating them if they become lost or stolen.

So, what does this mean to you and your student?

- New 6th-12th grade students: You will need to purchase a Chromebook as your school device. The best deal currently that meets the requirements is the same one mentioned above at Best Buy (Click [HERE](#)).
- Our Lady of Mercy and Our Lady of Victory students in grades 6th – 12th: You may use your current device; you are not required to purchase a new device at this time. We do ask that when/if you decide to replace your current device due to age, breakage, etc., then please purchase a Chromebook.
- Students in grades PK – 5th: School devices will be provided to teachers who will use them in class. No devices will go home with students nor are students required to purchase devices.

As I see especially good deals on these devices, I will send out recommendations. For example, there is an amazing deal at Best Buy right now for an Acer Chromebook. If you do decide to purchase a device, please read the minimum requirements below when considering a purchase.

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FOR ALL STUDENTS: To make sure that we are providing appropriate filtering and protection for your students and to make it easier to manage your device's access to the school network, all student devices will go through a provisioning process where they are enrolled in our enterprise management system. This will be at no cost to you. Students will have the opportunity to do this process on August 4th or 5th between 8:00 and 3:00 PM. This process takes about 30 minutes, and students will be allowed to drop off their devices. If students are unable to attend one of those two days, we will set an appointment with them to provide; however, they may not have access to the internet initially.

Minimum Requirements

4GB of RAM

Intel Core i3 or AMD Ryzen 3 processor

Recommended Specifications

8GB of RAM

Intel Core i5 or AMD Ryzen 5 processor or higher

Click the examples below for links to devices to consider:

- [Minimum Example 1](#)
- [Minimum Example 2](#)
- [Minimum Example 3](#)

- [Recommended Example 1](#)
- [Recommended Example 2](#)
- [Recommended Example 3](#)

**Please note that these are not endorsements of specific companies to purchase from as there are many online and in-person retailers.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at bhollers@smaschool.org.

I look forward to serving you and your students and am excited to be a part of the St. Mary's Academy family!

Sincerely,

Dr. Brent Hollers

Director of Information Technology