

Technology in the Classroom:

Bell Shoals Baptist Academy desires to provide the best educational tools possible for our students. As part of this effort, BSBA has investigated the use of technology in the classroom as a larger part of student learning. Through our research, we have decided that the Apple iPad is the best device that will meet the needs of our students and teachers.



Moving forward with this knowledge, we have been working on placing the latest Apple iPads in the hands of all K-8th grade teachers and we are in the process of equipping them with the knowledge and ability to use these devices in the classroom. We have installed a new Wi-Fi access point in all K-8 classrooms. We have also hired a Technology Coordinator, Cyndi Holcombe, to be on staff full-time to give support to our academy in this area.

Starting the fall of 2020, we will be working towards a new iPad cart for classroom usage for the elementary students and all 6th – 8th grade students will be required to purchase, through BSBA, an iPad to use while they are enrolled. After successful completion of their 8th grade year, the iPad will be released to the student to use in their future education.

All iPads through this initiative will be monitored through an MDM (mobile device management) system which will control all assets of the device to make sure the user experience pertains only to school related materials and will be monitored for proper usage. This MDM software will also automatically update apps and software as needed without the need for the student or teacher to release use of their device.

Textbooks, when they are available, will be installed on the iPads for each particular grade so that we may also be able to lighten your child's backpack. School assignments can be worked on and turned in to their teacher using their device and there will be classroom interaction between the teacher and student devices.

Since there is such a wide-range of content and subjects for each grade, we will be able to tailor the iPads for all students as they will be able to access textbooks, take notes, work on interactive class projects, participate in hands-on learning experiences, take virtual field trips and be able to communicate with their teacher.

The cost of the iPad will include the device, 3 years of Apple Care+ and a case. Each year when the student enters the 6th grade, we will be purchasing the most updated device available for them. For the fall of 2020, each 6th – 8th grader will be receiving the new 7th generation iPad with 128MG. See the chart for the breakdown of the cost that will be added to tuition:

Total Cost \$550	Length of time to purchase:	Payment amount per month:
8th graders in Fall 2020	1 year/11 months	\$50.00
7th graders in Fall 2020	2 years/22 months	\$25.00
6th graders in Fall 2020	3 years/33 months	\$16.67

*After successful completion of the student's 8th grade year, the iPad is released to the student.

There will be more information available in the coming months. We are very excited about this project and know that this will certainly enhance your child's education at Bell Shoals Baptist Academy.