

BRAD TAYLOR

Information Coordinator

920.492.2905 ext. 1017

E-mail: btaylor@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us



MEDIA RELEASE

For More Information, Contact:

Matt Anderson, Instructional Technology Coordinator

Ashwaubenon School District

920-492-2955 ext. 5456

manderson@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Ashwaubenon Expands 1:1 Technology Initiative By Distributing Netbooks To Freshmen & Sophomores

Ashwaubenon, WI – September 9, 2011 – Beginning Monday morning, September 12th, the Ashwaubenon School District is expanding its “1:1 (One-to-One) Initiative” by distributing netbook computers to all Ashwaubenon High School freshmen and sophomores. The technology initiative started as a pilot program in February when netbooks were distributed to last school year’s freshman class. Those students, now sophomores, along with the incoming freshman class will be receiving their netbooks during the distribution days of Monday, September 12th and Tuesday, September 13th. This will result in one half, or approximately 500 students, of Ashwaubenon High’s student body having a district-issued, wirelessly networked computer. The goal of the program is to provide all students with access to a digital tool; in this case, a computer.

According to Matt Anderson, Instructional Technology Coordinator for the district, “The success of our 1:1 Initiative is a direct result of the hard work, dedication and support of our high school teachers, support staff, technology team and library staff. The netbooks have really had a positive impact on teaching and learning opportunities for our students.”

The success of last year’s pilot program has not only led to its expansion to another class but, also to the school district being invited to present at two upcoming technology conferences – the SLATE (School Leaders Advancing Technology in Education) Conference 2011, and the 1:1 Institute Great Lakes Conference 2011.

Partnering with Verizon Wireless, the netbooks will have access to the current wireless system at Ashwaubenon High School and Verizon’s 3G network. This will provide students with a reliable, 24-by-7 internet connection at school, at home and anywhere else they can access Verizon’s national network.

Classroom use of technology for learning has long been a focus of Ashwaubenon School District and continues through this “1:1 Initiative.” Other technology tools more common to classrooms have been deployed systematically for student and staff use. These include laptop computers for all District staff, projection units that double as televisions, interactive white boards, portable computer labs in elementary and middle schools, iPods, iPads and other tools.

For more information, please contact Matt Anderson, Instructional Technology Coordinator, at 920-492-2955 extension 5456 or manderson@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us.

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