Technology Fee
2022/23

BGSD has increased our technology fee to help cover the growing costs of technology for our students. Our goal is to improve our ratio of students per device and provide for software that they would not otherwise have access to. The long term goal over the coming years is to get to a ratio of students per device near 1:1 for our grade 4 - 12 students. Standard BGSD funding is able to achieve a 2:1 ratio (students per device) and part of the technology fee is being used to lower that ratio in schools.

Current fees:

The fee structure is as follows:
Division 1 (Grades 1 - 3) - $20
Division 2, 3 and 4 (Grades 4 - 12) - $50

The technology fee covers all or a portion of the following software costs:
- Assistive software - readers, image dictionaries, word predictors
  - Read Write Chrome
  - PDF reader/Orbit Note
- Premium Google Education+
  - Documents, Sheets, Slides, Forms, etc.
  - Features not available in free google accounts.
- Creative educational software - Adobe Creative Cloud
  - Adobe Photoshop, Premiere, InDesign, Adobe Express.
- EquatIO - Math made digital - graphing and formula writing, scientific tools
- Bandwidth over and above the basic Alb Ed funding
- Management tools to improve efficiency
- Teacher Controls for in classroom management
  - LanSchool, GoGuardian - these give the teacher control over the BGSD managed devices in the classroom, keeping students on task.
- Mental health AI monitoring.
- Backup software - students won't lose their work.
- Canadian content media

Most of this software is available to the student 24/7, at school and at home.

The technology fee also covers a portion of the following hardware costs:
- The purchasing of chromebooks to lower our ratio of students per device.
  - Our goal over the coming years is to get near a 1:1 ratio of managed devices in grades 4 - 12.
- Touchscreen Chromebooks and Chrome Tablets in grade 1 - 3

- A management fee for each chromebook of $45
- The fee is NOT spent on any network infrastructure. No switches, servers, access points, etc.
- The fee does NOT cover any filtering/blocking software or infrastructure management software.
- The fee does NOT cover any staff devices or classroom displays.

BGSD has over 8,500 devices used by staff and students with over 900 access points, 150 industrial grade switches, 80 servers, fiber optic connections and bandwidth needs for a small city of 12,000. There is over 5 million dollars of infrastructure that is evergreened on a rotating 5 - 7 year timeline. Providing students with access to information in a safe and secure environment while meeting their curricular needs.