



Leasing 1:1 Devices to Prolong Your Ed Tech Budget

For schools and districts with limited budget, 1:1 technology may seem as realistic as exchanging the school buses for spaceships. School boards and districts are often under pressure from parents, students, and 2018 societal expectations to make devices available to every K-12 student, but the budget for such a technology deployment isn't always available. Furthermore, successful 1:1 device programs are dependent on sustained investment that goes beyond the devices themselves, [according to TKI](#), New Zealand's Ministry of Education. So, K-12 school leaders must get creative.

From such a need for creative spending arose 1:1 device leasing options. Below we explore why leasing can increase schools' access to devices now and in the future by allowing for a sustainable device refresh plan.

Make the Most of the Tech Budget

When school board or community initiatives call for classroom technology, school leaders and IT don't always have adequate time to meet the demands. Funding for a 1:1 device program or for new interactive panels in a dozen classrooms doesn't just materialize out of thin air. Instead of waiting to amass the funding or going into debt, there is another option for schools or districts wishing for a way to spread out a technology investment: leasing.

Leasing enables schools or districts to accurately budget future spending by dispersing a technology investment over the defined lease period. It also significantly reduces the upfront costs.

Get the Latest and Greatest

In schools in which the curriculum or pedagogy is dependent on access to the latest device models, such as STEM-focused programming, leasing is also ideal. Just like a person who appreciates having the latest car would be best suited for a car lease enabling a new car every three years, likewise schools can enjoy sustainable device refresh plans through leasing their 1:1 devices.

Even for schools that aren't dependent on always having the latest devices, there is a limited lifespan to any device. One district, Mooresville Grade School District, [chose to lease](#). However, the critical move made by Terry Haas, the chief financial officer, was to add the 1:1 program to the district's budget as a permanent line item. The laptops they purchased would eventually need to be refreshed, Haas reasoned, so by adding the cost to the budget permanently, it ensured the funding could continue to be earmarked for the important 1:1 device program.

Standardization of Equipment Saves Time and Money

Rolling out a 1:1 device initiative all at once rather than by piecemealing it means your school or district can buy and roll out the same devices across all classrooms or campuses. This cuts down on the challenge and costs of IT support, makes it easier to manage and deploy devices, and enables teachers to support one another as they learn the same devices together. This continuity saves time and money - two valuable and finite resources in education!

You Set the Terms

With a lease, all the planning and terms are done up front, and schools or districts can choose what is right for them. For example, they can schedule device refresh periods during the summer to minimize the disruption. Furthermore, they can choose payments that coordinate with budget cycles to make the most of their resources. At the projected end of the devices' lifespan, schools may have already organized the return logistics to further simplify the cycle.

Pros Weigh In

If devices go home with students, consider investing in protective cases for mobile devices to reduce replacement due to broken or damaged devices. Protective cases are much less expensive than new devices.

Troxell account executives can help you determine if leasing is the best way to achieve a 1:1 device program, and they can also guide you on how to protect the devices once they're leased. Contact us today at 1-855-TROXELL.