

BARNSTEAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Computer, Software, and Related Technology

The use of computers in the Barnstead School District for administrative, as well as classroom educational purposes, is recognized as necessary if Barnstead is to fulfill its obligation to its students. Access to and participation in the Internet and World Wide Web is recognized for the same reason.

Unless a computer technology class is offered, computers will be used as another teaching tool, much the way books are now used. That is, students will be taught how to use the computer and software in order to accomplish a classroom task or to enhance the course of academic study.

In the Barnstead School District, the following standards and organization will apply to the acquisition and use of computers and software.

Computer Platforms

Barnstead students need to be able to use two common systems because they will encounter these systems, or platforms in the high schools they attend and at college or in the work place. (*A platform is a combination of a computer and its operating system, i.e. an IBM clone and Windows '95 or an Apple computer and System 7.*) Therefore, the District will use Apple computers or equivalent in Grades K through 4, and IBM compatibles in its computer lab and Grades 5 through 8. By grouping the computer platforms, the students will spend less time adapting to changing equipment, the transition will be managed through the lab, and students will gain experience with both platforms.

Software

For each platform, the District will refer to the District's curriculum plan so that appropriate programs may be installed on each computer; therefore, a set of "standard" programs (i.e., word processor, typing tutor, spread sheet) will be selected for platform so that students achieve better proficiency as they progress through the grades. Each grade and each teacher will be encouraged to use additional software to enhance the program and meet the needs of special projects.

Internet and World Wide Web

As the District's computer program evolves, use of the Internet and World Wide Web will become an integral part of the students' experience. The District will take the necessary precautions to ensure that the information brought into the District via the Internet is of appropriate educational value.

Teachers

Teachers at Barnstead Elementary School will be encouraged to develop, implement and assist in the assessment of the District's curriculum. Teachers will be expected to be proficient in the use of computers and in integrating computer technology into their curricula.

(Proposed: 08/20/96)

(Adopted: 10/01/96)