



Wolf Creek Public Schools

Creating Success For All Learners www.wolfcreek.ab.ca



Chromebook Parent Purchase Program Information 2016-2017

Wolf Creek Public Schools is proud of the many ways that our staff and students utilize technology in order to **enhance teaching and learning in our schools**. We have a long history and a proven track record of working with our school communities in order to be able to positively leverage the potential of digital technology tools to support learning. Everyday our schools utilize technology to:

- allow students to show their learning in a wide variety of ways,
- connect students with each other within their classroom, within the division, within the province and around the world.
- connect students and teachers with experts in various fields such as authors, astronauts, scientists,
- support students with a wide variety of learning styles and needs,
- and more!

Bring Your Own Device Program

Wolf Creek Public Schools believes that students should be able to bring their own device to school with them to support their learning. We are proud to have been promoting this kind of learning support for our students since 2009. Students across our division benefit from ready access to school owned technology, but we have found over years of observation and working with our students that students feel most comfortable with, and often are able to best support their learning with, a device that they personally own.

Our parents have been very supportive of this evolution of a bring your own device approach in Wolf Creek. In many many schools as parents seek to provide supports for their children as they learn in today's classrooms, our teachers and administrators have been fielding parent questions around "what kind of a device should I purchase for my child"?

History and Background

Back in 2011, Wolf Creek School division piloted the first use of Chromebooks and Google Apps for Education in our schools. This pilot quickly grew as we received feedback from students, teachers, administrators, and parents around the potential for this kind of device to purposefully support student learning. In 2012, we introduced the Parent Purchase Program to our Wolf Creek Schools and this initiative has been taken advantage of by over 1000 Wolf Creek families since that time.

Through a partnership with a well known manufacturer of Chromebooks, Wolf Creek Public Schools has been able to develop an online process whereby we can pass along special pricing to our families

on Chromebooks. While it may be true that our families will be able to occasionally find lower pricing on similar devices at a sale at a nearby retailer, by purchasing through our online process parents can be assured that the devices they purchase will work within Wolf Creek's network environment and be set up and delivered to their student's school by Wolf Creek Tech Services staff.

New Online Purchase Process

For the 2016-2017 school year, **Wolf Creek Public Schools** is excited to be working with **BCom Computer**, as the reseller of Acer Chromebooks, to continue offering the Chromebook Parent Purchase Program for our Wolf Creek families through an online Parent Purchase Program website.

In partnership with Wolf Creek, BCom Computer has built a Wolf Creek Public Schools online store specifically for our families which provides the ability to purchase a selection of Chromebooks, accessories and warranty options which have been chosen because they fit in well with our Wolf Creek context.

Families wishing to purchase a Chromebook through this program will need to visit www.b-com.ca/wolfcreek/home.php in order to create a parent shopping and payment profile.

A link to access the Parent Purchase Program website can be found on **your local school's website** under the **Quick Links** section.

The screenshot shows the BCOM Education Portal website. At the top, there is a dark header bar with the text "Corporate Sales Team: 780-485-8800 [e-mail]" and the BCOM Computer logo. To the right of the logo is a shopping cart icon showing "0 items \$0.00" and links for "View cart" and "Checkout". Below the header, there are navigation links for "Home", "Service & Support", and "Locate Us", along with a search bar. On the left, there are two sidebar sections: "Special Links" containing a link to the BCOM Retail Website, and "Help" containing a link to Contact us. A Comodo Secured logo is also present. The main content area features a large green apple on a wooden surface with a chalkboard background displaying mathematical equations. The text "BCOM Education Portal" is overlaid on the chalkboard. At the bottom of the main content area, the text "Welcome to the BCOM Education Portal" is displayed.

Please ask your child's teacher or principal for a document with step by step instructions for how to use the Parent Purchase Program website.

See the next page for some Frequently Asked Questions and further details.

Wolf Creek Public Schools Chromebook Parent Purchase Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the Payment Options?

Our reseller, BCom Computer, has made two different options for payment available to our families wishing to purchase through the Parent Purchase Portal.

1. A family can choose to use their credit card to pay for the total cost of their order all at once or;
2. A family might choose to pay the total cost of their order over 4 monthly payments.

This flexibility will hopefully allow as many Wolf Creek families as possible to access the Chromebook Parent Purchase Plan.

Costs for the devices will vary slightly during the year as it is tied to Canadian and US exchange rates. Prices will always be in Canadian funds. Detailed costs are available on the website.

What is the Warranty and the options for Warranty Upgrades?

The Acer Chromebooks that can be purchased through the Parent Purchase Program **come with a standard one year manufacturer's warranty**. This warranty covers manufacturer's defects in the device for a period of one year. This standard warranty does not include accidental or intentional damage to any component of the Chromebook such as the screen, keyboard, case, touchpad, etc.

Optional Upgrades

BCom offers the following warranty upgrades as a part of the Wolf Creek Public Schools Parent Purchase Program:

1. An extension of the manufacturer's warranty from 1 year to 3 years. This extension does not cover accidental or intentional damage to the device,
2. An extension of the manufacturer's warranty to 3 years with accidental damage coverage. This coverage allows for the one time replacement of a device that has been accidentally damaged beyond repair.

These options are available through the Parent Purchase Program website at the time of purchase at various prices.

IMPORTANT: Once a device has been delivered to a student as a part of the Parent Purchase Program, it will be the responsibility of the student's family to work with BCom Computer to resolve any warranty claims, disputes, or concerns around payments. If needed, you can find contact information for BCom Computer by visiting their website at: www.b-com.ca

After purchase, how is the device delivered?

Chromebooks purchased through the Wolf Creek Public Schools online purchase process will be shipped from our reseller to Wolf Creek Public School's Division Office. Wolf Creek Public Schools Tech Services Staff will then configure each device so that the student's Chromebook is ready to connect to our wireless network and work within our Google Apps for Education environment. Once we have finished our set up work, Wolf Creek Tech Services will deliver the student's Chromebook to their school. Students are encouraged to order early as the delivery may take a couple weeks depending on available stock.

Do I HAVE to Purchase a Chromebook through the Parent Purchase Website?

Absolutely not!

Wolf Creek Public Schools is a bring your own device environment and welcomes any device that a student may have that is able to support their learning appropriately by leveraging web based tools such as Google Apps for Education.

Our students' families have long asked us for our recommendations around devices that are relatively low cost but high impact in terms of supporting learning. This is how the Parent Purchase Program was born!

Our classroom teachers utilize Google Apps for Education in Wolf Creek and the Chromebook is a natural platform to be able to take advantage of the power of these collaborative tools. We have completed test and research with various Chromebook devices over the years and have selected devices that have good battery life, are generally robust enough to stand up to day to day classroom use, and have proven themselves as reliable over our considerable time using them in Wolf Creek.

We certainly welcome and support our families' choices to purchase a device to enhance their child's learning through our Parent Purchase Program or through any retailer of their choice. The Parent Purchase Program was designed as a service to our families so that there was one less decision for parents to make around "what device should we buy" and/or "where should we buy or device from"?

Additional Questions?

If you have any questions around how Chromebooks or other digital tools are being utilized in your child's school to support and enhance learning, please do not hesitate to talk to your child's teacher or the administrators at the school.