

Chromebook Lease/Purchase Program FAQ

What is a Chromebook and how are they different than a standard laptop?

A Chromebook is a laptop of a different breed. Instead of Windows or Mac OS, Chromebooks run Google's Chrome OS. These machines are designed to be used primarily while connected to the Internet, with most applications and documents living in the cloud. Because they are internet devices, you cannot load standard programs like Quicken or Microsoft Office on them but this limitation does not impact students as they do everything online anyway. The advantage of being an internet device is they are **easy to use**, have **virus protection** built in, **automatically update**, have very **long battery life** and **never slow down**.

Do I have to Lease the Chromebook or can I just Buy it?

You can lease or buy, as soon as the total cost of \$240 is reached the device becomes yours. There is a minimum yearly payment of \$80.

If I do lease one, am I paying more in interest?

No, we just take the total purchase cost and divide it by 3 for a 3 year lease of \$80.

Does North Lakes require students to lease or purchase a Chromebook?

No, students are not required to lease or purchase a Chromebook. The decision to offer a lease program was made to provide an affordable solution for families and the school to grow the availability of technology.

What is special about these particular Chromebooks, the Lenovo N21?

The Lenovo N21 is highly rated and designed specifically for students. It has a sturdy exterior designed to survive being dropped from the height of a table. They also have a rotatable camera great for capturing science experiments! They have a built in handle, and an HD anti glare screen for less eye strain.

Can I just purchase my own Lenovo N21? I found it cheaper on Amazon.

We will not prevent you from purchasing your own Chromebook but we strongly encourage you to lease or purchase them from NLA because ours come with these 4 additional features:

1. **Internet Security.** This helps prevent students from accessing dangerous, malicious or inappropriate websites no matter where the device connects to the internet: at school, home, coffee shop, wherever.
2. **Theft Protection.** If your device is stolen, we can track it and lock it down remotely.
3. **App Sharing.** When teachers use an App for class, they can Automatically send Apps to our Chromes so the student does not have to worry about finding it and installing it on their own.
4. **FREE Service.** if something does break the lessee is still responsible for the replacement part e.g. a cracked screen, but the labor needed to fix it is free.

Can we keep the Chromebooks over the Summer?

At the end of the school year, Chromebooks are returned to North Lakes Academy to be inventoried. If you renew for the following school year you can have it for the summer once payment is received.