



## **MUS Technology**

At the San Diego Jewish Academy – Maimonides Upper School, technology is an important enhancement to the educational experience of our students. As stated in *A Vision of 2020 – San Diego Jewish Academy Strategic Plan*, “SDJA will ensure an outstanding and rigorous educational program focused on creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurial thinking, nurturing those skills and habits of mind and body that students will need to succeed in school and life.” This strategic focus, coupled with the realities of the technology rich world of our students’ generation, frames our vision for implementing educational technology into our school community.

Technology plays a significant role in many aspects of the lives of MUS students, parents and faculty. In the educational realm, computing devices are used to enhance the learning experience of students. Incorporating a computing device in the school life of our community provides a tool for collaboration, communication, connection, and organization. By melding the vast capabilities of a computing device with our curriculum, MUS students will create, innovate and think entrepreneurially as they engage with challenges facing their world and their future.

Specifically, MUS students will use their computing device for several educational tasks: word processing, internet access for research purposes, utilizing web based platforms to enhance and supplement coursework, using the school’s learning management system called Edline, analyzing data, creating and presenting multimedia presentations and utilizing calendaring systems to assist with and develop time management skills.

Students and faculty will primarily use web-based platforms for their educational technology needs although some departments will employ subject matter specific software and applications. Web-based platforms such as Canvas and Google Drive will be used extensively by our students for collaborations, course management and coursework. Microsoft Office formats (Word, Excel and Power Point) will be the required formats used by MUS students and faculty for all SDJA work product. A few departments have specific needs. Some high school science students will use the computation software, Mathematica and other analytic programs, while certain Judaic studies classes may use Judaic software. All MUS students will have access to SDJA provided iPads for specific projects as determined by the course teacher. MUS Music students will have SDJA iPads to utilize Apple music applications like Garage Band and iRealB or other music software systems such as Sibelius and Finale.

## **Bring Your Own Laptop Program (BYOL)**

It is required that all MUS students bring a laptop computer to school daily. We hope the following information will answer any questions you have. For additional information regarding the MUS educational technology program, please contact Mike Quigley at [mquigley@sdja.com](mailto:mquigley@sdja.com).

### ***Why BYOL?***

We believe a BYOL program accomplishes the following:

- Fosters student ownership of their learning.
- Enhances learning by providing mobility, access to real time sources of information and facilitates communication and collaboration for all students.
- Creates an efficient transition between home and school.
- Develops the computing skills necessary to be prepared for college and beyond.

### ***Will my child use their computer in class every day?***

Technology at the MUS is used for specific curricular needs. When and what computing capability is used by students will be determined by the classroom teacher and aligned to the learning objectives for each course and lesson plan.

### ***What Technology Support is available for my child?***

The SDJA Technology Department will provide basic technology support like Wi-Fi access and systems connectivity, e.g. printing.

### ***If my child's laptop breaks, who will fix it?***

All maintenance for the hardware device, operating system, software and / or apps is the responsibility of the family.

### ***Does SDJA have a computing usage agreement for students?***

Yes. The upper school Dean of Students is responsible for the upper school computing usage agreement. The agreement is available to view on the MUS Technology tab in Canvas and the Parent Student Handbook.

### ***What kind of computer should my child bring to school?***

SDJA makes no specific requirements regarding brand, operating system (i.e., Windows vs. Macintosh), or configuration, but we do have recommendations. Please use the Laptop Technical Requirements document as a guide when identifying and purchasing a laptop for educational use.

## **Laptop Technical Requirements**

<b>Computers that meet the requirement</b>	<b>Devices that do <u>not</u> meet the requirement</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PC laptop: 4GB RAM; Windows 7 or newer</li> <li>• MacBook Air or Pro: 128GB hard drive; 10.8 (Mountain Lion) or newer</li> <li>• Microsoft Surface Pro (or similar Ultrabook)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• iPad or iPod</li> <li>• Google Chromebook</li> <li>• Android tablet (Kindle Fire, Samsung Galaxy, etc.)</li> <li>• Microsoft Surface RT</li> <li>• Smartphone (iPhone, Blackberry, Android, Microsoft etc.)</li> </ul>	
	<b>Minimum Requirements for Apple Macintosh</b>	<b>Minimum Requirements for Windows</b>
<b>Processor</b>	Intel Mac Processor	Intel/AMD i3 or quad core
<b>Operating System</b>	Mac OS (10.7) or newer	Windows 7 or newer
<b>Memory (RAM)</b>	4 GB or more	
<b>Hard Drive</b>	100 GB minimum. Photos, music, and movies require more storage.	
<b>Camera &amp; Microphone</b>	Built in	
<b>Battery</b>	6 Cells or greater	
<b>Wireless</b>	802.11 a/b/n	
<b>Warranty / Maintenance (strongly recommended)</b>	AppleCare	Manufacturer's Extended Warranty
	Geek Squad, Square Trade, etc.	
<b>Backup System</b>	iCloud, Time Machine	OneDrive, Windows Backup

	Google Drive (school provided), Dropbox, Carbonite, etc.	
<b>Software</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft Office is required</li> <li>• Adobe Acrobat Reader</li> <li>• Adobe Flash</li> <li>• Java</li> <li>• At least <b>two</b> up-to-date web browsers Chrome is the preferred one and one additional (Explorer, Safari, Firefox, etc.)</li> </ul>	
<b>Antivirus Protection</b>	Current license of Antivirus	Current license of Antivirus