



Colorado Rocky Mountain School Student Computer Recommendations and Requirements:

CRMS now **requires** that all students have a personal laptop for use on campus. In most cases a NetBook laptop will be sufficient and is a low cost solution. Please contact the technology department if you need help deciding what would be best for your child (support@crms.org). CRMS is a platform friendly school and shows no bias toward any particular brand or operating system.

In order to connect to the CRMS network students will need a wireless network card. Student computers are then registered with the technology department and screened for virus software and harmful programs. Below are the minimum requirements for student computers:

Hardware Requirements:

- Laptops are **required** for all students.
- Laptops can be Mac or PC based computers.
- Laptops need either integrated wireless or a wireless network card. Wireless connection is common on almost all laptops currently.
- When purchasing a new laptop, CRMS recommends long term warranties (3 yr's or more) as well as CompleteCare Accidental Damage Service (name may vary per manufacturer).
- Memory sticks or flash drive are **required** recommended (512Mb or larger).

Software requirements:

- Computers **must have Anti-Virus software with a current subscription for virus updates**. Please check the **date of the subscription** service and verify that the service will be valid for the entire school year.
- All students will need a word processor, spreadsheet program and presentation type program (example:MS PowerPoint). Microsoft sells a student version for \$140.00. Open Office is a free suite of programs for PC or Mac that provides all the needed tools (www.openoffice.org).
- Some classes require specific software. CRMS does not provide any licensed software for personal computers. Please confirm with the school if any additional software will be required. Example: Photography requires Adobe Photoshop CS4, Computer Programming requires Adobe Flash CS4
- We encourage Anti-Spy ware software for all computers. Many Anti-Virus programs include spy ware protection as well.
- All peer-to-peer software should be removed. We block this type of software on our network and request that all students remove the software from the computers.
- As computer usage continues to grow, CRMS recommends that all students spend time learning keyboard skills. A Google search for 'keyboard skills software' will present many options for your student. Please feel free to call my office for suggestions as well.

CRMS provides minimal support for personal laptops and in most cases will refer the student to either their parent or manufacturer of the computer. Below list the support that CRMS will provide:

- We will help configure the student laptop to connect to our network.
- Lab printers can be installed for students and instructions will be given on how to access these printers from their personal computer.
- We support the usage of many programs but cannot be knowledgeable with every program that exists. When possible we will help students with application usage. Example: Help a student create a document or create a PowerPoint slide show.
- When possible we will provide support for student with hardware issues. In most cases we will only identify the issue and a possible solution. We will give the student the information they will need when contacting parents or manufacturers. We will not provide any service that will void a warranty with a personal computer.

Thank you,

Eric Krimmer
Colorado Rocky Mountain School
Director of technology