

Dear Rising Fifth Grade Parents:

As you know, we have a 1:1 program in which each student in grades 5-12 receives a MacBook to use while enrolled at Houston Academy.

Fifth grade students need to meet in Dunning Hall on August 9 for the MacBook “rollout.” Students whose last names begin with A-H meet at 1:00 p.m., I-Z at 3:00. One parent needs to attend the “rollout” with their student.

In order for your student to receive a MacBook, your child must bring the following items to that meeting:

- 1) **A messenger-type computer bag with a shoulder strap.** It must be a padded, computer bag that fits the computer well and has a shoulder strap. It cannot, however, be a messenger or tote bag; it must be designed to be a computer bag. **A backpack, even with a padded area for a computer, will not meet this requirement.** It must be a separate bag, just for transporting the computer, with a shoulder strap. The laptops are 13” MacBook Pros with a regular display, and the dimensions are 0.95” (height), 12.78” (width), and 8.94” (depth.) **The maximum size allowed for the bag is 4” (height), 16” (width), and 15” (depth), so that it will fit in the student’s desk.** These can be purchased from Walmart, Best Buy, Target, Kmart, Office Depot, Office Max, Sam’s, or many online companies. One of the fifth grade teachers or Mrs. Woodcock must approve these bags. Please email Miss Barragry (barragrye@houstonacademy.com) or Mrs. Woodcock (woodcockm@houstonacademy.com) with any questions.
- 2) An ID tag with the student’s name, address, and phone number on one side and the school’s name, address (901 Buena Vista Drive, 36303), and phone number (334-794-4106) on the other. Have the side with the student’s information visible.
- 3) Ear buds to be used during the school year (these must be present in the laptop bag EVERY day)
- 4) The Laptop Contract signed by both the student and the parent
- 5) An Apple ID username and password (Must belong to the student, cannot be their parent’s ID- See below)
- 6) A USB stick drive that is at least 8 GB

To aid in attempting to recover the laptop if it is stolen, we are turning on Find my MacBook, which requires the student to have the iCloud set up on the MacBook with his/her Apple ID.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Since your child is not yet 13 years old, we will need you, the parent, to set up an email address and an Apple ID using that email address in their name, but with your birthdate. You will own and manage the email account and the Apple ID until they reach 13 years of age. At that time, it will be up to you as to whether you want to turn it over to them to use for iTunes, etc. Please set up the email account for them prior to the meeting. If you know how to set up an Apple ID, please do so, using that email address, before the meeting, also. If you need help setting up the Apple ID, we will assist you at the meeting, but you must know the email address and password for the email account that you set up for your child.

Please call me at 671-8892 or email woodcockm@houstonacademy.com with questions.

Melanie Woodcock
Director of Technology