KCS Technology Requirements

The following requirements will be useful as you plan for this big purchase. It is very important that you use these specifications, since standardized testing is moving in this direction. Requests for additional information or clarification can be sent to itdirector@kcsknights.org

We recommend students have laptops, not tablets or netbooks

We recommend students have Apple Macbooks. Windows laptops will work, however KCS uses Apple systems for faculty and infrastructure. See details at the end of this document.

Minimum Standards

	PC/Windows	Mac
Screen & Keyboard	12"	12"
Operating System	Windows 8.1 or newer	Mac OS 10.10 or newer
RAM	4 GB	4 GB
Web Browser	Google Chrome	Google Chrome
Minimum Screen Resolution	1024x768	1024x768
WiFi wireless	802.11g - 54 Mbs	802.11g - 54 Mbs

Detailed Info:

Much of the learning resources used at KCS are online web applications and rarely any additional software will need to be installed on the student's system. Most important is that the student has a system with a keyboard, not a touchscreen-only keyboard. In our experience, tablets and other mobile smart devices are not sufficient to support the rate of text input needed in a classroom environment and full laptops with keyboards are the best devices to use. Also, we cannot recommend netbooks like a Chromebook because we do not have enough testing and results in our environment.

KCS uses Apple TV's for our projectors. Occasionally in some classes, students have the opportunity to present to the screen. For this and other reasons, we suggest students choose the Apple Macbook option because it supports the projection protocol. (For students with Windows laptops, you may purchase a license of "AirParrot 2," but can wait to purchase until you find the student actually needs projection capability in their classes)