



## SEATTLE PREPARATORY SCHOOL'S ONE-TO-ONE LEARNING INITIATIVE Spring 2016 Announcement

At Seattle Prep, we believe that the educational experience of our students has been enhanced through the thoughtful and guided introduction of technology into our curriculum and into our classrooms. In 2014, we launched the One-to-One Learning Initiative, a mission-driven program that supports student learning through the use of technology. Through the use of programs such as Office 365, Veracross, and Haiku (on campus, at home, or anywhere else) students can collaborate effectively with teachers and each other while learning important content, accessing resources, and developing organizational skills.

The One-to-One Learning Initiative does not merely put a device in the hands of every students. Instead, operating under the principles of organization, collaboration, and communication, we aim to improve our students' technology abilities and give them the skills they need to succeed in college and beyond.

A solid enhancement of the program will be the adoption in **June 2017** of the Microsoft Surface, a tablet computer. We chose the Surface because it provides the tools students need in the classroom, the place where teaching and learning begins. The Surface with Windows 10 can be easily converted for tablet use. It has a full-sized keyboard, a touch screen, and a stylus, so students can input data and create content for their classes in multiple ways. Students will have full access to a Surface of their own for the school year; they can take it with them wherever they go because all of the students' work is backed up to the Microsoft Cloud through Microsoft OneDrive, there is no need to worry about losing work.

Part of the Seattle Prep One-to-One Learning Plan has always been evaluating how to make improvements. Our technology advisory committee has been gathering information since June. We have noted the faculty concerns about not having robust management tools to monitor and limit iPad distractions during and after class. We have also seen the frustrations students experience in not being able to do 100% of their daily work, using only one device. We have collaborated with other Jesuit Schools, most notably Loyola Blakefield, Fordham Prep, and DeSmet; to help guide with their own solid research. Kent and Maureen have strengthened and approved the plans going forward.

Microsoft is working closely with Seattle Prep so we can soon become a Microsoft Showcase School. This designation has been given to only 20 other schools in the country for what Microsoft calls "pioneering efforts and innovation in rethinking teaching, learning, and assessment in order to drive deep 21st century competencies." In addition, we are planning to have select faculty members become trained as Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts.

The solid results we have seen thus far are a testament to the exceptional collective work done over the past few years to thoughtfully integrate technology at Seattle Prep. We are proud of the progress we have made so far, and look forward to the progress we will make with our One-to-One Learning Initiative going forward.