



Joliet Catholic Academy

1:1 Device Program Information Packet

Included in this packet you have:

1. A letter from Associate Principal, Laura Pahl
 - a. Welcome
 - b. Our Mission
 - c. What's Next?- Device and Pen Requirement
 - d. Computer Chip Shortage Info
 - e. Suggested Websites
 - f. Warranty Info
 - g. Providing JCA with Device
 - h. Required Summer Computer Workshop
2. JCA Suggested Devices- List and Description
 - a. Microsoft Surfaces
 - i. Pro
 - ii. Go
 - b. Dell
 - i. Inspiron 14 7425 2-in-1
 - ii. Latitude 7320
 - iii. Latitude 5340 2-in-1
 - c. Bring Your Own Device Option
 - i. Required device specifications
3. How to Order from our Suggested Websites
 - a. Microsoft
 - b. Dell

Dear Future Angel/Hillman and Family,

Welcome to Joliet Catholic Academy! These are exciting times here at JCA! We are incredibly proud of the strides that we have taken in technology integration over the past 7 years. As a fully 1:1 school, every JCA student has a personal laptop device to use both at school and at home.

This means that we can move forward into the future knowing that each JCA student is receiving the best education that we can give. Our incoming students will emerge from JCA in four years with not only a solid academic education, but additional skills and knowledge that will help them stand out from the crowd as they enter higher education and the workforce.

As a Microsoft Showcase School, we utilize apps and programs that are both time tested and state of the art. With both cloud-based and local work capabilities, you receive the best of both worlds and a well-rounded technology education that is nearly impossible to find elsewhere in the area.

Our Mission

Staying true to our mission, we seek “to cultivate opportunities for academic excellence,” and strongly believe that our 1:1 technology program supports our mission. Our teachers are prepared and excited to work with you using the latest technology available to provide students with the best education possible. We choose to be 1:1 for many reasons, but especially to increase student-centered learning, enhance student and teacher collaboration, and to increase student engagement, accountability, and creativity.

What's Next?

Each freshman and transfer student will be required to have a laptop computer (and pen/stylus) that meets the specifications set forth by the school. We require these specifications so that we can provide the highest level of security and the most functionality.

You have multiple options for acquiring a suitable laptop. You may order through one of the websites we suggest, find a new device on your own, or use one you already have on hand, provided it meets the specifications.

The Times We Are In...

Due to production interruptions and increased demand, there is a global computer chip shortage that has far-reaching effects in the technology industry.

Prices in this letter are quoted as they are today, but are subject to change at any time based on the market, sales, and circumstances. We will add appropriate devices to the websites as they become available.

We suggest purchasing your desired device early when you find it available, as it may become unavailable at any time without warning.

Easy Ordering with Suggested Websites

For your convenience, we have partnered with representatives from Microsoft and Dell to suggest devices that we think would be a good fit for our JCA students, at multiple price points, to best meet the needs of our families.

Warranty

Whether purchasing a device with Microsoft, Dell, or on your own, you will be given the option to purchase an extended warranty for the device that you choose. All devices listed here come with a one or two-year manufacturer warranty, but most of them do not cover accidental damage. **We very highly recommend that you purchase extended warranties that also cover accidental damage for all years of high school.**

A student device will be required for the duration of high school, and accidents and issues are likely to occur over the course of four years. **Having a warranty in place that is purchased through Dell or Microsoft allows the JCA technology department to address issues and send a device out for repairs without burdening the family.** If you purchase a device and warranty elsewhere, you will be responsible for sending the device out for repair.

Providing JCA with the Device

If your son/daughter will be a freshman or transfer student at JCA for the 2023-24 school year, you are required to drop off the computer so we can set it up. Your son/daughter will receive his/her computer back during the Summer Computer Workshop. Computers cannot be picked up before the workshop.

Drop Off Options:

- **Thursday, June 15th from 8 a.m.- 12 p.m.** Enter the main doors facing Larkin Ave.
- **Monday, July 24th from 9 a.m. -12 p.m. or 5 p.m.- 7 p.m.** Enter the main doors facing Larkin Ave.
 - If the computer is new, please bring the laptop in its **unopened original box**.
 - Computers cannot be picked up before the workshop.

Summer Computer Workshop

During an hour-long Summer Computer Workshop, incoming freshmen and transfer students will receive back their devices which have been installed with all necessary apps and programs to begin the school year. Students will be led through logging in and accessing important apps so that they feel confident starting the school year with the new device.

Please sign your student up for one workshop timeslot. **Workshops are offered on Wednesday, August 9th and Thursday, August 10th at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11 a.m.** Workshops will be limited to 28 students, so please sign up early to get your preferred slot. Please use the student's name on the sign up.

You can reserve your spot at <https://signup.com/go/MDKhjYD> or by scanning this QR code:



To access this entire letter online so that links are active, go to <https://bit.ly/3GPBAVh>

We are here to partner with you and your child during this exciting time. If you have any questions, please contact Jeffrey Budz, Infrastructure Specialist, at jrbudz@jca-online.org or 815-741-0500, ext. 241.

Welcome to the JCA family!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laura Pahl". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Laura Pahl
Associate Principal



JCA Suggested Devices

Suggested Microsoft Devices:

Microsoft Surface:

JCA's number one preferred device is the Microsoft Surface. Its quality, speed, functionality, and inking capability are difficult to rival. All teachers at JCA provide instruction using the Microsoft Surface.

Surfaces have a reputation for being one of the best devices at this price point in the industry and work seamlessly with the many Microsoft programs that we utilize daily. It also has incredible inking capability, and the keyboard detaches to make writing easy.

Surface PRO:

- **Microsoft Surface Pro 9 Tablet:** Currently as low as **\$1191** for 8GB/128GB tablet, type cover (keyboard), and pen on the Microsoft site by using the Education Discount (explained on How to Order page) Purchase Here: <https://bit.ly/3GTPZzB> – Click “Build Your Device”
- **Surface Pro 8, 7+, and 7 tablets are also excellent options.** Purchase here: <https://bit.ly/3MTaosp>
- **Please do not purchase the Microsoft Surface Pro X Tablet-** It cannot be imaged by JCA and therefore cannot be used at JCA.
- Surface Laptops are not recommended.

Surface GO:

- **Microsoft Surface Go 3 Tablet-** Currently as low as **\$645** for 8GB/128GB tablet, type cover (keyboard), and pen on the Microsoft site by using the Education Discount (explained on How to Order page). Purchase here: <https://bit.ly/3oP4XB2> – Click “Build Your Device”
 - **DO NOT purchase the Surface Laptop Go.** It does not have inking capability and does not meet specifications required by JCA.
 - While the 4GB/64GB is available in this model, it will not have the memory needed for the programs JCA runs.
 - *The Surface Go 3's screen is smaller than the Pro's screen. Some students will be comfortable with that, others will not. Students will be required to access digital textbooks and take notes and complete assignments by writing on the screens of their devices. So, this device is a good fit for a student who would be comfortable doing all of that on a smaller screen.*

Find the right device for you by using this link to compare the options above: [Compare Surface Computers, Tech Specs & Models – Microsoft Surface](#)

Details about all Surface Options:

- Be sure to purchase the required type cover (keyboard).
- Be sure to purchase the required Surface Pen. It does not come with the tablet. Be sure to get the correct pen that goes with the device you choose.
- Do not purchase Microsoft 365. That is provided by the school.
- Do not purchase virus protection. That is provided by the school.



Suggested Dell Devices:

Dell Inspiron

- Inspiron 14 7425 2-in-1- Laptop and Active Pen currently as low as **\$623** on Dell site
- Inspiron 14 7425 2-in-1- Laptop and Active Pen currently as low as **\$833** on Dell site- (same device as above but comes with a \$75 e-Gift card and 3-year Pro Support Plus Warranty- bundled to save on cost)
- Purchase at www.dell.com/mpp/JolietCA

Dell Latitude

- Latitude 7320 with Detachable Keyboard- Tablet, keyboard, and Active Pen currently as low as **\$1,527** on Dell site
- Latitude 5340 2-in-1- Laptop and Active Pen currently as low as **\$1,550** on Dell site
- Purchase at www.dell.com/mpp/JolietCA

***Options will be added and removed on the Dell portal as they become available/unavailable. Any Dell listed in our portal will meet the specs for JCA.**

Details about all Dell options:

- Some options come with a Pro Support Plus Warranty as part of the bundle to save you some money- This is a warranty that does cover accidental damage. We do, however, strongly encourage purchasing additional warranty years to cover all four years. Here is information about the Pro Support Plus Warranty <https://bit.ly/3GVzWuT>
- You will need to purchase the correct Active Pen that goes with the device you choose.
- Do not purchase Microsoft 365. That is provided by the school.
- Do not purchase virus protection. That is provided by the school.
- Please reach out to our Dell rep with any issues with the Dell site, questions about Dell devices, or customized quotes for other Dell devices: Lydia.Mccrummen@Dell.com

***ALL third-party purchases (Amazon, Best Buy, other websites and stores), even if they are the exact models listed and/or Microsoft or Dell branded, cannot/will not be supported by JCA's Dell and Microsoft reps unless they are purchased at the listed Microsoft website or JCA/Dell portal.**



Bring Your Own Device Option

Your student is welcome to use a device that you already own, or you can purchase a device elsewhere, provided it meets all the specifications below.

Some important notes regarding the BYOD option:

- All students are required to have a device, a keyboard (attached or detachable), and a compatible active pen.
- When choosing a BYOD option, the family takes on responsibility for ensuring a device meets all specifications set forth by the school. JCA is unable to check every device for all specs. If a device turns out to not meet specifications, that device cannot be used at JCA and must be replaced with a device that meets all specs.
- ALL third-party purchases (Amazon, Best Buy, other websites and stores) cannot/will not be supported by our Dell and Microsoft reps—even if the products purchased are Dell or Microsoft branded or JCA suggested devices.

JCA Specifications: **(Devices that do not meet these specs cannot be used at JCA.** We cannot check every device as it comes in and devices that do not meet specs may not be identified until after the device has been set up by JCA. Please be sure device meets all specs before turning it in to the school. If you need help determining if a device meets specs, please reach out to Jeffrey Budz at jrbudz@jca-online.org.)

- Capacitive Touch Screen (not resistive touch screen)
- Active Stylus Pen preferred (Capacitive is allowed, but inking capability must be high quality for taking legible notes and completing online assignments.)
- Windows 10 or 11 Based (Preferably Pro. Home is allowed)
- No Chromebooks, No Macs, No iPads
- 128 GB or more of storage
- Minimum of 6 hour battery life
- 8 GB RAM or more strongly encouraged – 4 GB may not be able to handle the programs required for JCA on some devices
- Laptop will be imaged by JCA, so save any files elsewhere before turning in to the school
- Laptop must be allowed to join our domain
- Meraki System Manager and LanSchool classroom management will be installed
- Microsoft suite will be installed
- Laptop must be available to be brought to school every day during the school year (not sharing devices with anyone else)
- Device must have keyboard attached or detachable
- It is VERY strongly suggested that if you purchase a laptop style device, that you ensure it lays all the way flat (like a 2 in 1 model). Inking (writing on the screen) is very often required for classes, and writing when a screen is in an upright position can be very difficult.
- Do not purchase Microsoft 365- It will be provided by JCA.



How to Order from Our Suggested Websites:

Microsoft

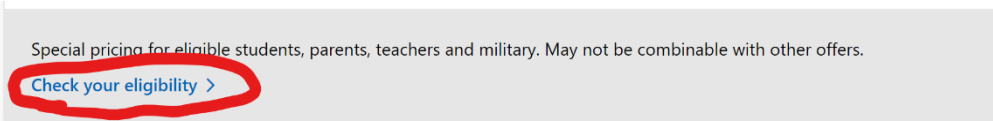
You can order all Surface options at <https://bit.ly/2VDyfhW> (Direct links to several of the devices are provided above.) **PLEASE NOTE, this site will list many Microsoft devices. However, not all of them are allowed or suggested for use at JCA. Use the info above to determine appropriate devices. (Avoid Surface laptops and Surface Pro X.)**

You can compare devices by clicking on “Select this Device” for a few devices then clicking “compare.”

To order a device, click on the Blue name of the device to select and order.

You will get the best pricing using the education discount.

- Under the device you’re viewing, you should see a message that says, “Special pricing for eligible students, parents, teachers, and military. May not be combined with other offers.” Below it is a blue button that says, “Check Your Eligibility.” Click on it.



Create a free account or use an existing Microsoft account.

Then, it will bring up the offers available to you as students.

Bundles are also available on the Microsoft site, but are not eligible for the education discount. Those are always options as well.

Dell

You can order Dell options at our Dell portal at: www.Dell.com/mpp/JolietCA

Click the blue “View Recommended Solutions” button.

Device and Stylus are listed separately. Be sure to purchase an active pen, as it is required.

Note: Options will be added and removed on the Dell portal as they become available/unavailable. ALL Dell devices listed in our portal will meet the specs for JCA.