

Dear Parents,

As students begin to take home school devices for distance learning I would like to offer a few suggestions to keep the students and their devices safe.

Each of the iPads is in a protective case that is rated to help protect the device from damage due to a drop. These cases definitely provide some protection but devices will still break if the iPad screen strikes a sharp object. Screen repairs from Apple cost \$249. The devices sent home cost \$399 each and the cases add between \$45 to \$99 to the overall cost of the iPad. Please encourage your children to use the devices with care. They should be used for schoolwork and carefully stored when not in use. They should never be left on the floor where there is a chance that someone might step on the device.

Like cell phones, iPads have lithium ion batteries. I always charge my devices that have lithium ion batteries by setting the device on a hard, non-flammable surface like Formica, granite, or glass. I do not recommend charging these devices on a carpeted surface or a bed. Lithium will ignite when exposed to water vapor in the air, so any damaged or leaking battery poses a fire risk. While reports of devices catching fire are extremely rare it is always wise to keep this in mind. For added safety you may wish to unplug the devices from the charger during the night and store the device on a hard surface.

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