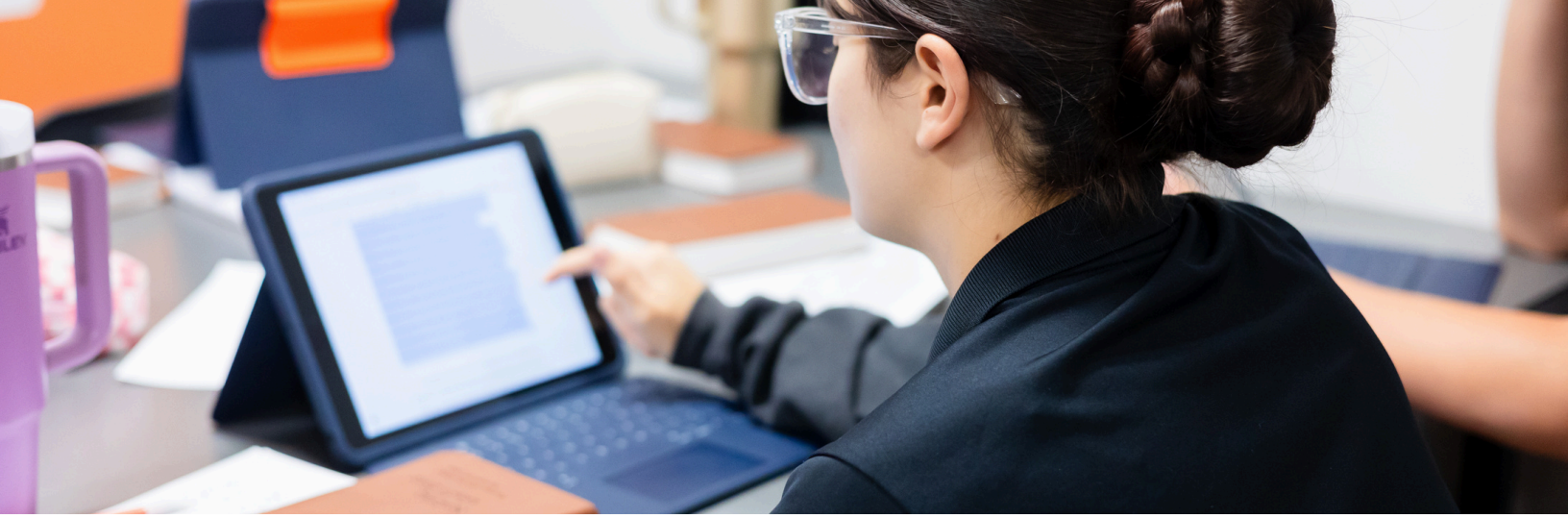

# 2027-2028 Technology Requirements

## Grades 11 & 12 - MacBook Laptop

All students must have a personal Apple MacBook laptop to use daily at school. MacBook purchases and support are the responsibility of the student's family.

## Grade 9 & 10 - School iPad Rental ($150/year)

A TRS School iPad will be issued to students during the first week of school and will be collected during the last week of the school year. These devices are managed and monitored by the school using a school-assigned Apple ID (not a personal ID). Restrictions will be applied for the safety of students which will restrict their access to inappropriate content as well as disabling features such as FaceTime, iMessage, and the App Store. The $150 technology rental fee will be billed annually to FACTS accounts and a $650 replacement fee will be billed for any iPads that are lost or not returned.

## Why Mac?

Apple's MacBooks are the most user-friendly devices on the market and are more resistant to malware than other platforms. They require little technical expertise to maintain and need fewer updates than other devices. They retain resale value and typically have a longer lifespan than non-Apple devices. The Rock School is an Apple technology campus, so teachers will be better able to assist students during class if they need help with their MacBooks. For students, they are easy to understand and operate, behaving similar to iPads and iPhones with which they may already be familiar. Lastly, Apple provides powerful, built-in parental controls to help limit students' screen time and protect children from inappropriate online content.

## Earbuds/Bluetooth Headphones

Students in grades 6-12 will need to provide personal earbuds or headphones for private listening of audio classroom content. Bluetooth compatible earbuds are recommended.

## What specs are required?

Even the most inexpensive MacBook Air currently available from Apple with minimum specs is perfectly fine for TRS school use. If you plan to use an older Apple MacBook, please ensure that it is running MacOS version 14 (Sonoma) or later.

## What specs are optional?

More expensive options like additional hard drive space, more powerful graphics, and additional memory (RAM) are nice to have, but not required. NOTE: If your student plans to pursue graphics & video editing interests in college, investing in a MacBook with more memory and more powerful graphics may be helpful.

*Questions? Contact helpdesk@therock.school*

**Phone** 352-331-7625
**Website** www.therock.school
**Email** admissions@therock.school
**Address** 9818 SW 24th Ave