



USD 487 Tech Bytes

Technology for Learning

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Winter Holiday Plans...

The Christmas holiday is rapidly approaching and plans are in place to make use of the short break to do a health check on all the student laptops during the time away from classes. Warranty issues can be identified, repair needs addressed and updates to the installed software taken care of. In order to keep the machines running as smoothly as possible for classes this will be a necessary task.

Teachers were warned that students will not have laptops during the break, thus no homework should require the use of them. Students should take the reasonable precaution to back up their important files to their server workspace and to make note of any known issues with the computer.

Shortly before the end of classes this semester, computers will be gathered. Students can expect to receive a receipt for their computer and will **not** be asked for their ac adapter or bag (*computer only*). Computers will be available to check back out following the break.

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Key Websites:

Herington Schools	http://www.heringtonschools.org
School Library	http://books.usd487.org
Safe Videos	http://ttc.usd487.org/safevideos
E-mail	http://mail.usd487.org
KanEd Desktop	http://kportal.learningstation.com

Blocked Sites:

A common complaint from students is that sites are blocked from access. The filter at school is intended to keep users safe and to keep the focus of our technology on education. If there are sites needed for classes, report them to a teacher. They can make a request to approve the site for use on school computers. Staff requests are handled on the day they are received.

Atomic Learning Changes



If you have not used Atomic Learning yet, you should! What a great tool to help learn about a new piece of software or to remind you how to use an old software tool. The Technology Skills Collection consists of nearly 40,000 tutorials on more than 120 software applications for both Macintosh and Windows platforms.

Each of the trainings are segmented into short demonstrations of each tool in a software program. If all you want to know is how to print out of PowerPoint, then all you have to watch is a 2 or 3-minute demo. Want to know more about setting up a spreadsheet, the program starts at the basic level and moves up to the advanced user.

Access to the program has been through the KanEd portal. Following the first of the year a shortcut will be placed on the district website. You will use your email address and the same password you use for KanEd login. Watch for the change!