

NAM School Technology purchases 2015-2016 school year

We have been very fortunate this year! Due to the fundraising efforts by our supportive school and parish families, we have added technology upgrades to our campus and curriculum. The money brought in has enabled us to make the following purchases which ultimately benefit the education of each and every student at NAM. The teachers and staff at NAM would like to thank our school and community families for helping us integrate such wonderful technological advances into our school. *You* are the reason our students will be well versed in technology, enabling them to succeed in their individual callings once they graduate from NAM! Thank you.

New Lenovo chromebooks have been distributed to each student in grades six through eight this year! Students are responsible for their chromebooks and take them home to complete homework and other collaborative assignments. Our students have accelerated their learning; the chromebooks allow students easy access to the full range of learning resources available through Google Apps for Education. (Teachers and staff also benefit from the switch to Google Apps for Education; they are now able to share documents and work collaboratively from remote locations.)

In addition to having SMARTboards in every classroom K-8, we were fortunate to have the opportunity to purchase a *SMARTtable* for daily use in our preschool classrooms this year. Students are being engaged while improving in active small group collaboration! The teachers have been trained in the use of the SMARTtable to incorporate learners of every ability to grow academically and socially. The SMARTtable is so much fun to use, students will forget they are learning!

New HP All-in-One Computers were purchased as an important technology investment for our school. This not only updates the technology drastically within the school, but allows us to increase our usage. We plan on creating a sitting computer lab, inside a media center/library. This increases learning opportunities we can offer students! The screens are 20 inches and offer a friendly light interface, increased amounts of storage and speed, features windows 10, and offers USB, HDMI, and CD/DVD ports. They also are green energy friendly and will reduce the amount of electricity needed. With the addition of these stationary all in one computers, we are now able to move our laptops into the classrooms so that students have access to computers throughout the day for small group activities.

We have upgraded our WiFi Access points throughout the school! The update of our access points has vastly improved the reliability of our wireless internet connection throughout the school. This upgrade ensures our Wifi system will have running updates and will last for years with effective and fast internet for all students and teachers on all devices. We upgraded our internet speed as well to match our awesome WiFi capabilities. To protect the Wifi usage, we also implemented a software program to monitor WiFi usage throughout the school; this program allows us to identify individual devices and block access, as needed.

We purchased a Roxio VHS converter that allows us to convert our collection of VHS tapes into digital formats that is made accessible to every teacher in our school, through our Google Apps for Education platform. This enables teachers to play videos on the SMARTboards in each classroom with a few clicks of a mouse. This conversion helps us to eliminate the VHS collection in the library, and the need for the outdated portable TVs. With the reduction of these supplies, more space is made available for the revamping of our library into a media center. Overall, this technology purchase will have an enormous impact on our campus' media sharing methods!

Lastly, we have implemented a new website! The new website will be used through the purchase of Weebly Pro. This allows easy and visually appealing features that are more user friendly. This update enables us to place a focus on marketing our school to new families in the community. Alumni and community members will appreciate the addition of our electronic donation option through Paypal! This website switch also saves our campus money on a yearly basis due to the reduction in hosting fees. We hope you enjoy the updates as we focus on making our school communication more effective, the website interface more user friendly, and overall more visually appealing.