



# GOOSE CREEK

## CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

### GCCISD iPad Distribution to Seniors

Seniors at the Peter E. Hyland Center and Ross S. Sterling High School anxiously awaited their turns recently as the Goose Creek CISD launched its plan to place iPads in the hands of all 12th grade students for use at school as well as at home. The following week, seniors from Robert E. Lee High School and Goose Creek Memorial High School also had the opportunity to check out iPads. At iPParent meetings before distribution of the iPad tablets, Steve Koester, director of educational technology, gave students and their parents a brief overview of the initiative, explaining that bond funds had been earmarked for technology.

The goals for the iPad initiative are to support the development of 21st century learners, to help with organizational skills, to prepare students for success in college and the workplace, and to give students educational access and resources for real-world engagement.

More than 1200 12th grade students will receive these iPads this month. Makeup sessions will be scheduled for students and parents unable to attend the meetings on the designated dates.

Claudia Hidalgo's daughter Alexis Beascochea received an iPad Tuesday evening, October 8, at the Peter E. Hyland Center, and Hidalgo was more than happy to listen to the presentation and sign an iPad Loan Agreement.

"If it's going to improve their education, I'm all for it – anything that's going to help my daughter," Hidalgo said.

Peter E. Hyland Principal Michelle Verdun was excited to see her 12th grade students gain more access to technology through the iPads.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for our students," said Verdun. "They are so fortunate for Goose Creek CISD to provide them with these iPads. This also enables teachers to use technology in numerous ways to enrich instruction."

Ross S. Sterling seniors and their parents turned out in force Thursday evening, October 10, to obtain information and pick up the iPads. RSS senior Jena Petch's mother Millie Doom asked a question or two about the procedure, but she is pleased that the District is giving her daughter and the other students this opportunity.

"I like the idea, especially if it's going to help prepare her for college," said Doom. "Of course, we're always concerned about her taking care of the iPad, but if she treats it like she does her phone, she won't have any problem."

Deployment of the iPads took tremendous organization by the District's Technology Management Systems Department. Weeks ago, Matt Flood, chief technology officer, and his team began to prepare procedures for the deployment, the informative presentation for parents, the Responsible Use Policy and the loan agreement to be signed by students and parents. All iPads were marked for identification purposes.

District volunteers were trained for specific jobs, including setup of the iPad, but students were sent home with instruction sheets enumerating several more steps for them to complete. iPads are to be brought to school every day fully-charged.

According to terms of the iPad Loan Agreement, students were issued a 4th Generation iPad with retina display and 16 GB of storage, a charger, a charging cord, and an Otterbox case.



Kendall Frasier, senior at Goose Creek Memorial High School, shows her excitement at receiving an iPad and plans to use it for her English research. [View photo gallery photos here.](#)

Parents were advised to supervise use of the iPads at home, making sure their children abide by the Responsible Use Policy, which includes reporting loss or damage of the iPad immediately and returning all equipment upon graduation, expulsion or withdrawal. Fees will be assessed for breakage of any of the equipment, and a police report must be filed by the student and/or parent if they suspect that the iPad has been stolen, damaged or destroyed by another person or lost.

"I'm really thankful to the Board of Trustees for allowing us to have these iPads," said Sterling student Heber Leiba, as he headed for home to continue setting up his iPad.

Lee High School students and parents also expressed their gratitude to the District for allowing seniors to check out the iPads. Greg Lynd, REL principal, believes that GCCISD is helping students reach their goals for the future by giving them this access to technology.

"Many of these students would not have had the opportunity to use an iPad," said Lynd. This is what the future's going to look like—we might as well get started now."

Goose Creek Memorial student Kendall Frasier received her iPad just in time to put it to good use.

"We're working on our research paper right now in English class, so I'll be able to use my iPad to research my topic," said Frasier.

The Educational Technology Department will work hand-in-hand with the Curriculum and Instruction Department to discover new applications and productivity tools that can be incorporated into everyday instruction. Teachers with iPads will receive specialized training every six weeks with onsite support from a member of the Ed. Tech team.

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Physical Address:  
Goose Creek Consolidated  
Independent School District  
4544 Interstate 10 East  
Baytown, Texas 77521  
281.420.4800

Mailing Address:  
Goose Creek Consolidated  
Independent School District  
P.O. Box 30  
Baytown, Texas 77522  
281.420.4800

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