

# INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR POWERLEARNING PARENTS

February 26<sup>th</sup>

Manistee High School Auditorium

7:00 pm

# Welcome!

- ❑ Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend this meeting.
- ❑ Meeting agenda:
  - ❑ Short video
  - ❑ Goals of PowerLearning
  - ❑ Background and timeline of the program
  - ❑ Info hardware, software, internet connectivity troubleshooting/technical support
  - ❑ Student expectations
  - ❑ Parent responsibilities
  - ❑ Q & A





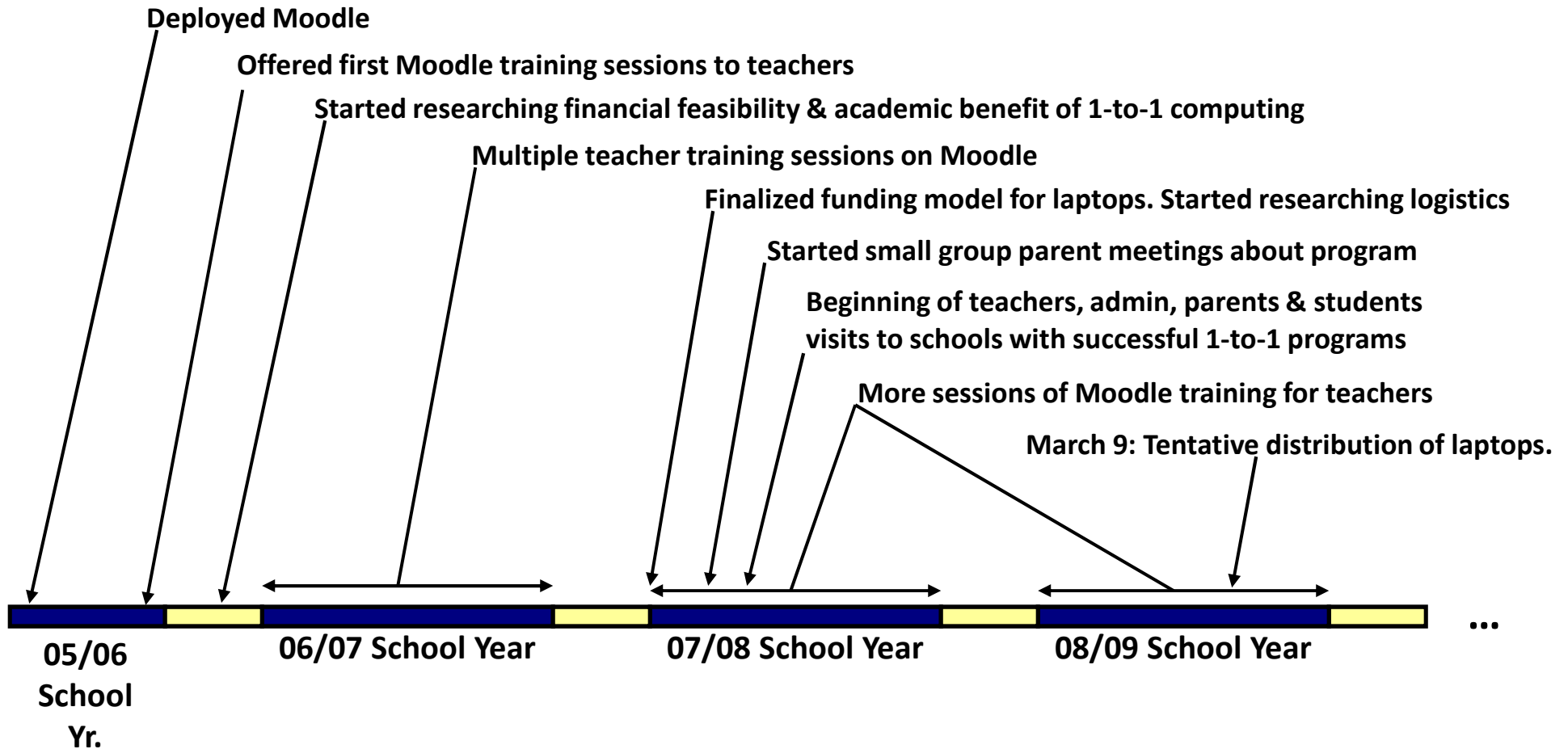
# Goals of Program

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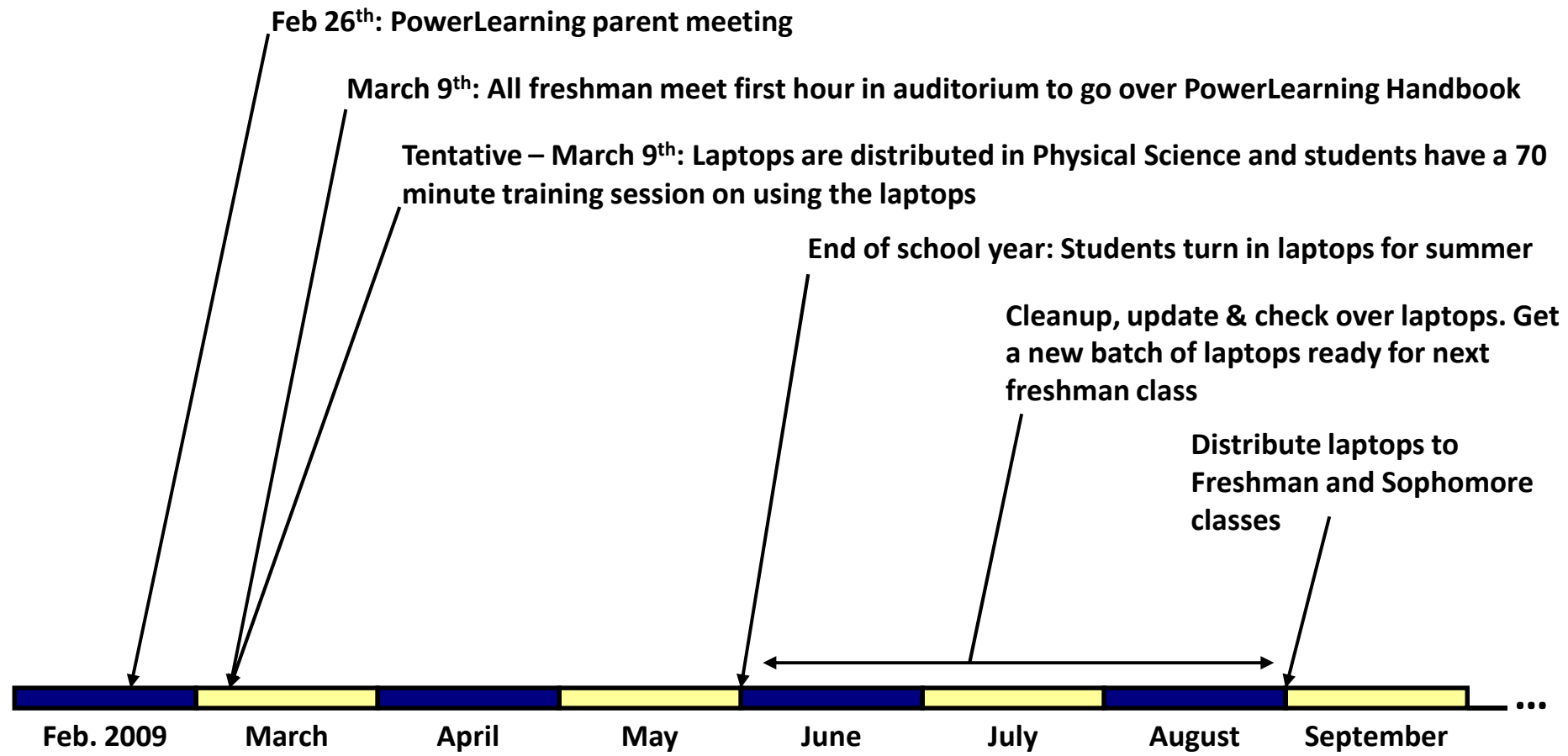
- Academic achievement
- Technology literacy
- Engagement in their daily educational experience
- Preparing for the requirements of college and the workforce
- Teachers will be able to use technology for more inquiry-based, student-centered instruction.



# PowerLearning Background



# Tentative PowerLearning Timeline



# Technical Specs

- ❑ Dell Latitude E5400 computers with Higher Ground Shuttle 15 cases.
  - ❑ Students will keep the same laptop throughout their time at MHS
- ❑ The basic specifications of the laptops are as follows:
  - ❑ Intel 2.0 GHz Dual Core processor
  - ❑ 2 GB of RAM
  - ❑ 15.4" screen
  - ❑ 80GB hard drive
  - ❑ 802.11b/g/n on-board wireless
  - ❑ 6 cell battery with approx. 4 hour runtime
  - ❑ CD-RW/DVD ROM optical drive
  - ❑ The case has a rigid metal frame, foam padding, “cool deck” for heat dissipation and is an “always on” design.
  - ❑ More information available at [www.dell.com](http://www.dell.com) & [www.highergroundgear.com](http://www.highergroundgear.com)



# Student Software

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- ❑ Laptops will have:
  - ❑ Windows XP
  - ❑ Open Office
  - ❑ Various other programs. A complete list is available in the PowerLearning Handbook



# Internet Access - Monitoring



- ❑ When using the Internet at school,
  - ❑ Sites are filtered using a web content filter
- ❑ Internet Access at Home
  - ❑ If you have Internet access at home, you can connect the laptop to that system
  - ❑ You are responsible for the setup of the Internet from your internet service provider.
  - ❑ Sites are filtered by the same web content filter
  - ❑ It is important parents/guardians still monitor the use

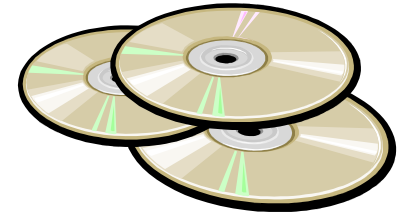
# Internet Access – Other Access Options

- ❑ Other locations
  - ❑ If a location has public wireless access to the internet, the laptop can connect.
  - ❑ Some examples:
    - ❑ Manistee County Library
    - ❑ Coffee Shops: Goody's & The Grounds
    - ❑ Restaurants: McDonalds & Pizza Hut
    - ❑ Other peoples home (relatives, friend...)

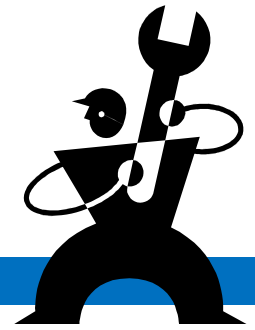


# Backup and Logins

- ❑ Laptop Setup – Two partitions:
  - ❑ C: drive where programs are installed
  - ❑ Y: drive where students can store their files
- ❑ To be backed up, student must transfer school-related files to their network “home directory” at school
  - ❑ Music and video will not be backed up
  - ❑ It is the responsibility of the student to backup personal-use files via flash drive, external hard drive, optical disk...
- ❑ Two logins – same username & password:
  - ❑ School – students log into the MAPS network and have access to network resources.
  - ❑ Home – student log into the local machine and have more rights.



# Technology Support and Resources



- ❑ Problems with the laptop? Here are the steps to get it fixed.
  - ❑ Use the troubleshooting guide (available at: [www.honoredstudents.org/powerlearning](http://www.honoredstudents.org/powerlearning))
  - ❑ Ask a staff member or student if they know how to fix it
  - ❑ If it is still a problem, bring the laptop to the tech department
    - ❑ Student fills out tech help request
    - ❑ Student is given a loaner computer until theirs is fixed
  - ❑ Please do not contact Dell directly.

# Student Expectations

- ❑ Students will take the laptop to all classes.
- ❑ Laptops will not be left unattended at any time.
- ❑ Laptops will be fully charged when students bring them to school each day.
- ❑ Laptops are not to be left at school over extended vacation periods (longer than a weekend).
- ❑ Laptops should be kept in the approved computer case at all times.



# Student Expectations

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- ❑ The laptop is the responsibility of the student it was issued to. It is not to be used by other students unless directed by a MAPS staff member.
- ❑ Students are responsible for the care and up keep of their computer, and must treat it with respect.
- ❑ Students may personalize their laptop with stickers as long as they first put on a “laptop skin” which can be ordered through the Chip Shop.
  - ❑ No stickers should ever be adhered directly to the laptop.
  - ❑ The laptop skin and stickers can in no manner affect the functionality of the keyboard, touchpad, mouse buttons, screen or any other switches or ports.

# Student Expectations

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- ❑ The configuration of the computer will not be changed by the student.
- ❑ MAPS staff and parents have the right to view the contents of the laptops at any time in order to protect students, the laptops or the security of the school.
- ❑ While at school, the use of the Internet, computer equipment, and computer software must be in support of the MAPS Curriculum and will be used within the MAPS Acceptable Use Policy.

# Student Expectations

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- ❑ It is the student's responsibility for reporting damages to equipment, system, and software.
- ❑ Any misuse of the equipment will fall under the guidelines of the student handbook. Consequences may range from a warning, detention, suspension and/or loss of home use.
- ❑ Food and drinks don't mix well with laptops. Don't eat or drink near the laptop.
- ❑ Laptops will be handled and used in a manner that is prudent and prevents it from falling or incurring other damage.

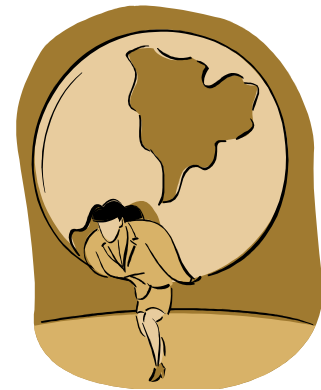
# Student Expectations

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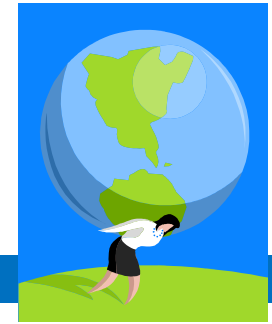
- ❑ Books should never be set on top of the laptop.
- ❑ It is important to carry the computer correctly so avoid carrying the laptop with the lid open and do not pick up the computer by the screen.
- ❑ Care should be taken to make sure that objects are not left on the keyboard when closing the lid.
- ❑ Modification of the laptop recovery software is grounds for disciplinary action.

# Parent Responsibilities

- ❑ To help offset the added cost from allowing students to take the laptops off-site we are requiring a \$25/term non-refundable fee to be paid by parents.
  - ❑ If you are eligible for the free/reduced lunch program, the fee will be adjusted.
- ❑ Lost or damaged items will be replaced at the parents expense. This includes:
  - ❑ Bag
  - ❑ Straps
  - ❑ Power adaptor



# Parent Responsibilities



- ❑ If a laptop is lost, stolen or damaged, please notify building administration immediately. A police report will be required to start the recovery process if a laptop is stolen. The district is installing laptop tracking software on each laptop.
- ❑ The laptop should be used in a location where use can be monitored and supervised by a parent; unsupervised use is **strongly discouraged**, e.g. use in a child's bedroom.
- ❑ Home internet connectivity will be filtered through our web filtering system.

# PowerLearning Website

- ❑ Please visit our PowerLearning website to keep up on any new developments with the program:  
[www.honoredstudents.org/powerlearning](http://www.honoredstudents.org/powerlearning)
- ❑ You can also email us questions and comments about the program at:  
[maps\\_powerlearning@manistee.org](mailto:maps_powerlearning@manistee.org)



# Questions???

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