



# ST. MICHAEL THE HIGH SCHOOL

“Fujitsu has helped us transform these devices from glorified notebooks into a truly next generation learning platform that will equip our students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive.”

Abby Tate  
Technology Integration Specialist  
St. Michael the Archangel High School

When St. Michael School's tablets reached end of life, it replaced them with the next generation of Fujitsu LIFEBOOK devices increasing productivity for 700 students.

### At a glance

Country: USA  
Industry: Education  
Founded: 1984  
Employees: 60  
Website: [www.smhsbr.org](http://www.smhsbr.org)

### Challenge

After four years of successfully using Fujitsu LIFEBOOK devices in its 1:1 program, St. Michael wanted to introduce a more modern device to enhance productivity and functionality. After careful evaluation of the market, the school decided to partner again with Fujitsu.

### Solution

St. Michael is deploying a further 760 Fujitsu devices to its students and faculty, running applications including DyKnow®, Moodle® and Microsoft® OneNote®. In addition, its student-staffed helpdesk has grown to 12, providing first line support for any issues.

### Benefit

- Increased processing power improves the user experience and boosts productivity
- All-day battery life negates the need to plug in the devices during class
- Larger screens and backlit keyboards in a smaller form factor improve usability and enhance multitasking
- In-house helpdesk support ensures speedy repairs and equips students with Fujitsu certification

## Customer

St. Michael the Archangel Diocesan Regional High School is a co-educational college preparatory school that provides a rigorous, comprehensive education. Staffed by a dedicated faculty, the school prides itself on an innovative Technology Department offering courses that range from Computer Science to Advanced Programming and Computer Architecture. Its mission is to provide students and teachers with the requisite resources to integrate technology into the learning environment, with continuous technology professional development, and training throughout each school year.

## Products and services

- Fujitsu LIFEBOOK® T732 Tablet PC
- Fujitsu LIFEBOOK® T936 Tablet PC

## Challenge

The concept of the One-to-One (1:1) model, wherein each student is provided with their own digital device, has proven hugely successful and influential in educational establishments around the world. The USA has led the field in pioneering in this trend; St Michael, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, recognized this and made an early investment in realizing its potential.

"When I arrived 12 years ago, there were only two computers on the entire campus, serving 700 students as well as 60 faculty members," explains Drew Hart, IT Director, St. Michael the Archangel High School. "We knew we had to embrace technology and so created labs and an access center in the library. The next step was to equip each student with a personal device for use at home and on campus."

Hart's technology team visited several other local schools that had introduced 1:1 programs, including St. Thomas More and St. Joseph, while also performing comprehensive research into key factors such as battery life and durability. It became clear that St. Michael needed a robust, cost-effective and flexible, convertible tablet PC.

"We had seen students in other schools struggling to plug in their devices during class because the battery was spent and naturally we wanted to avoid that," adds Hart. "Therefore, we benchmarked test units from several different vendors and evaluated them in terms of performance, endurance and ease of maintenance."

St. Michael selected the Fujitsu LIFEBOOK T732 Tablet PC based on recommendations from the schools it had visited and, importantly, the ability to establish its own in-house support team staffed by students.

## Solution

St. Michael originally deployed 900 of these Fujitsu devices to support crucial learning tools, including DyKnow, Moodle and Microsoft OneNote. The LIFEBOOK T732 blend of performance and portability, combined with a 12.5" display, pen and touch input and security features proved ideal initially. However, with an upcoming technology refresh, the school needed to once more evaluate the market.

"Our Fujitsu T732 no longer have the requisite speed and RAM as applications have become more demanding so we looked again at alternative solutions," says Hart. "Ultimately, Fujitsu's newer models, the LIFEBOOK T936, deliver performance, speed and reliability in a slimmer form factor with a larger screen. Furthermore, Fujitsu's self-maintenance program is second to none."

## FUJITSU AMERICA, INC.

Email: AskFujitsu@us.fujitsu.com  
Phone: 1-800-831-3183

©2017 Fujitsu America Inc. All rights reserved. Fujitsu, the Fujitsu logo, LIFEBOOK and "shaping tomorrow with you" are trademarks or registered trademarks of Fujitsu Limited in Japan and other countries. Moodle is a trademark or registered trademark of Martin Chris Dougiamas in the United States and other countries. Microsoft and OneNote are trademarks or registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries. DyKnow is a trademark or registered trademark of Dynamic Knowledge Transfer, LLC in the United States and other countries. All other trademarks referenced herein are the property of their respective owners. Technical data subject to modification and delivery subject to availability. Any liability that the data and illustrations are complete, actual or correct is excluded.



This self-maintenance program creates and nurtures a student-staffed internal helpdesk to repair and manage hundreds of Fujitsu devices. Initially, established by Hart with just one student, there are now 10 willing participants, each of whom will gain Fujitsu engineering certification as part of their studies.

"We currently have 28 students in our computer architecture class with 12 on the helpdesk and another 12 to join next semester," continues Hart. "That's practical, hands-on experience that is invaluable for their education and makes troubleshooting simple when issues arise."

## Benefit

The refreshed Fujitsu LIFEBOOK devices will provide additional processing power and enhanced battery life as well as larger screens and backlit keyboards – all within a smaller form factor. They also boast more elegant design with less effort required to open the casing.

"We had four teachers and four students pilot the new devices and the consensus was that backlit keyboards are a huge advantage when the lights are dimmed in class and the larger screens are a major boost to multitasking," comments Hart. "In addition, there have been smart design upgrades in terms of speaker and external port placement, not to mention fewer screws to take out of the chassis when repairs are needed."

Overall, the St. Michael School 1:1 program provides the tools that students need to achieve their academic goals and prepare them for further study or employment. The ability to collaborate in real-time and organize notes makes the learning process much more intuitive, particularly for children with different abilities.

"Our special educational needs students have performed exceptionally well using these Fujitsu devices," remarks Abby Tate, Technology Integration Specialist, St. Michael School. "Clearly, all our pupils have benefited greatly from the ability to create and share relevant information at the touch of a button."

"Fujitsu's goal is for us to be successful by providing superior technology and wonderful support as well as enabling the development of our own in-house help desk capability," concludes Tate. "It has helped us transform these devices from glorified notebooks into a truly next generation learning platform that will equip our students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive."