Laptop Purchase Recommendation

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 After researching Toshiba Satellite, Acer Aspire, and Dell Latitude computers, I have found that the Toshiba Satellite A660D-BT2N23, as seen at ToshibaDirect.com, is an ideal computer for school use. There are a number of reasons why I believe this. The memory and RAM on this computer are the highest of any of the models I researched. The processor in this computer allows it to perform tasks quickly. The computer has a large screen and a backlit keyboard is available. The school has the choice of disc drives in order to get what is needed. The computer has a large screen and a backlit keyboard is available. A wireless card is included, and a modem or Bluetooth can be added if desired. The software options allow the school to choose what is necessary. The computer also comes with a warranty unlike the others. All these options and the relatively low price make this computer a great choice for our school.

 This computer offers more memory and RAM than the other computers I have researched. The Toshiba Satellite offers a choice of 320GB, 500GB, or 640GB of hard drive memory. Customers can choose between 3GB, 4GB, 6GB, or 8GB of RAM (Toshiba, 2010). This amount of memory is more than what the Dell Latitude offers, and for a cheaper price (Dell, 2010). The option to choose allows more memory and RAM than the Acer Aspire offers (Acer, 2010). CBS Interactive (2010) states that it is best to get more memory than you believe you will need. The ability to choose this great amount of memory is fantastic.

 Another positive aspect of the Toshiba Satellite is its selection of processors to choose from. The combination of memory and processor determine the speed of the computer. The more of memory and the more processor cores the faster the computer will be (Evans, Martins, & Poatsy, 2010). The Satellite offers a choice of a triple or quad core processor. This means that the computer will be fast enough to handle almost any job the students might need it for, performing numerous tasks simultaneously (Evans, et al, 2010). The computer does not use the popular Intel processor, but rather the AMD processor which can be just as reliable, but is less expensive (CBS, 2010). The processor is also up to date and efficient assisting in offering a longer battery life (CBS, 2010). The processor chosen for this computer, whether triple or quad core will be both cost efficient and speedy.

 The Toshiba Satellite includes a DVD drive which will read and write CDs and DVDs. The computer also includes four USB ports and has a slot for adding a media card reader if desired. If desired the school can upgrade to a Blurry drive which will read and write CDs, DVDs, and Blurry Discs. Blurry Discs are becoming more and more popular so the school may want to really consider this upgrade.

The computer has a large screen which is great for watching videos or viewing multiple windows at once. It also offers a backlit keyboard. This feature is not necessary, but may assist students with vision impairments, as would the screen size. Although a smaller screen may work for students, I believe that a larger screen size is attractive to students and is assistive to vision impaired students by allowing items to be enlarged, but still fit on the screen.

Students will likely want to use the internet on the laptop. Toshiba includes an Ethernet port and a Wireless card in the computer so students can easily connect to the internet. If necessary a modem for a dial up connection can be added. Another connection addition is Bluetooth. It may be a good idea to add Bluetooth to connect to wireless tools such as the school’s Eon boards.

Two final features of this computer include the choice of software available and the warranty. Toshiba allows customers to choose the Microsoft Office package that they desire. This allows the school to save money by not having to include the full Microsoft Office package if it is unnecessary. The company also allows customers to choose their Norton Antivirus subscription. The school will need anti-virus software so including this is very helpful to protect the computer. Finally, Toshiba is the only company which included any kind of warranty in the price of the computer. Toshiba includes a one-year warranty. The warranty can be upgraded to two or three years for a small charge. These aspects allow the computer to fit into the school budget much easier.

In conclusion, the Toshiba Satellite A660 is the best computer choice for our school. This computer offers fast, reliable performance, plenty of memory, and numerous options. By choosing the options the school needs and leaving out anything unnecessary, the school can get everything they need for a reasonable price. These are the reasons why I believe the school should purchase the Satellite laptops over the other options.

References

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