

School News & Notes



School Friendly Gadgets Even Teachers Will Like! Today's Back-to-School Wish Lists Include PCs and PDAs

(NAPSA)—The new school year is back in session, which means it's time to look for electronic gifts that help students make the grade. According to the "Circuit City Campus Survival Survey" an overwhelming 98 percent of college students agreed, computers are the electronic devices most useful for their studies.

It's no secret that computers have become a necessity for students' studies, but more than ever, they are helping them in their non-academic lives as well. The majority of college students (59 percent) say a PC would not only help them get better grades, but would also be useful with their social lives. And, up-to-date technology is a must-have to succeed in college in and out of the classroom and with prices for desktop computers starting as low as \$399.99, they're within easy reach. In fact, many colleges now require students to have their own personal computers or laptops.

Today's gadgets have generally become more compact and fit with college life, with more models loaded with features and often at a lower price, which is music to college student's ears. A great tip for students is to look for laptops that function as a DVD player, TV, music center, gaming system and communication device, so they can help cut down on cramped dorm room clutter.

Students also should include on their checklist, wireless phones



that help them keep in touch with their friends and family; handheld organizers (which start as low as \$14.99) to manage busy campus schedules; and digital voice recorders to help avoid missing notes in class.

From grade school through college, technology is transforming American education. Parents need to know about the tools that are available to help their children do well in school. The key to finding just the right fit is first to ask the college what specifications they require and then you can consider what models are within your budget.

But with so many choices out there, the easiest step is to find a retailer with the product knowledge and assortments to ensure students get the products they need. Parents can find a great research tool, the "back-to-school center," online at circuitcity.com where they can also read customer ratings and reviews and compare products before setting foot in the store.