

Dear Parents,

The Smithfield Public Schools are excited to announce that students in grades 3 through 12 will be continuing to use Smithfield “G Suite for Education” (formerly named Google Apps for Education) accounts. The students’ G Suite for Education accounts include access to Google Drive/Documents, Google Classroom and Google Calendar, providing students with 21st Century tools to utilize to organize and support their learning. In an effort to provide a safe and age-appropriate learning environment, elementary students will NOT be provided with access to email through their G Suite for Education account. Middle school students receive access to email, but it is limited to within the district. High school students receive access to email that is open to communication outside the district. Student data will be handled in accordance with the Smithfield Public Schools “Students Data Privacy and Security”, Policy #4110/5000, which can be found on the district’s website (<http://www.smithfield-ps.org/policies>).

The district will not enable any applications or tools within G Suite that are not specifically covered under the G Suite for Education Terms of Service. Students will not be able to login or sign-in to consumer Google products (e.g. YouTube, Blogger, etc.) using their Smithfield Public Schools account, although they may be able to view publicly available content on these sites without being identified by their Smithfield account. Additional information about the specific Terms of Service, Privacy Policy and Security Information can be found on the district’s “1 to 1 Student Technology Initiative” website (<http://1to1.smithfield-ps.org>).

The use of a school G Suite for Education account will allow students to meet and demonstrate proficiency in many of the 2016 ISTE Standards for Students. You can find out more information about the 2016 ISTE Standards for Students at <http://www.iste.org/standards/standards/for-students-2016>. The online tools provided as part of G Suite for Education will also facilitate the transition to the Common Core State Standards, specifically allowing students to create educational content, collaborate with peers, and publish their work using diverse methods in a variety of formats.

Students will be able to log in to their G Suite for Education account from any device with internet access, including from home. This will allow students to use their account to easily access important work and information at home, as well as at school. The online tools provided within G Suite for Education can be used by students on a wide variety of computers and devices, including Chromebooks and many smart phones and tablets.

Use of the student G Suite for Education accounts will be governed by the district’s “Acceptable Use Policy For Staff and Students”, Policy # 5020/4060 which can be found

on the district's website (<http://www.smithfield-ps.org/policies>). The Smithfield Public Schools G Suite system should be considered an extension of the physical school campus and expectations for student behavior will be consistent with what is outlined in each school's Student Handbook. Students who misuse their G Suite for Education account may be subject to disciplinary action by the school administration. The district G Suite accounts are the property of the Smithfield Public Schools and, as with other district technology systems and as stated in the district's Acceptable Use Policy, the use of the accounts should not be considered private.

If you have any questions about the G Suite email accounts for student use, please contact your child's teacher, principal or the district's Director of Technology, Paul Barrette at 401-231-6606 x217 or pbarrette@smithfield-ps.org.

If you would like to find out more information about G Suite for Education and the other educational initiatives of the district, please visit our 1 to 1 Technology Initiative website at <http://1to1.smithfield-ps.org>.