

Chromebook and Internet Expectations

Technology is at the center of our lives in most environments, and the classroom is no exception. The students in our classroom today have grown up in a world surrounded by technology. They do not know what it is like to experience life without cell phones, computers, televisions and other common tech devices. The Chromebook has replaced the textbook in the classroom. Technology provides students with easy-to access information, accelerated learning and provides a personalized learning path. Cook County is fortunate to be able to provide each student with a Chromebook and just like the textbook of old, students must be responsible for this learning tool.

All students (K-12) are issued a Chromebook for daily use in class. Expectations regarding use and handling of these devices were presented to the students. Parents who refuse the right for their student(s) to not receive a Chromebook for instructional purposes must provide a statement in writing to the school's principal. Though there is a \$5.00 technology fee, it is currently waived again for the 2023-2024 school year.

- Chromebook must be charged and brought to school each day for use in all classes. - **High School Only**
- Students should NOT use Chromebooks to charge their cell phones. This will cause battery issues. If a student is caught in the act, they can be held accountable for the cost of a new battery for the Chromebook.
- Students should NEVER share their Chromebook or charger with another student. The Chromebook and charger are the financial responsibility of the student that has the chromebook checked out through the media center.
- Chromebooks will not be used to take pictures or video unless the teacher has given you permission to do so.
- If one of the following has occurred, you will be responsible for the cost of the repair or replacement of device:
 - Theft, burglary, or robbery of the Chromebook
 - Accidental loss of the Chromebook
 - Intentional loss or damage to the Chromebook due to negligence
 - Illegal use or fraud of the Chromebook
 - Dishonest acts including selling the Chromebook
 - Damage, corrosion, or rust due to liquids or foods coming in contact with the Chromebook
 - Damage to the Chromebook due to changes in humidity or temperature
 - Insect or animal damage to the Chromebook
 - Any other uses the school system deems inappropriate or damages incurred

If the Chromebook is lost/stolen, a police report must be filed with the School Resource Officer. Prorated Replacement Costs based on the date the district purchased the device:

2023- \$275.00 2022 - \$250.00 2021 - \$200.00 2020- \$150.00 2019 - \$75.00

Cost for other damages will be the cost of the part needed to repair the devices (ex. broken screen, missing keys, broken cases, etc) Current replacement cost for a broken screen is \$40.00 for all models and a keyboard can cost up to \$60.00 depending on damage. ***Charges will be added to the student's record in PowerSchool and will follow the student through school until paid.***

Chromebooks will be set up with safety content filters at school with the Cook County Content Filter in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act. Blocks are placed on the device for certain categories of web content. Cook County Schools utilizes two applications, Blocksi and Bark, to specifically monitor student activity on Chromebooks and inside the GSuite applications provided by the school system. Content filters are NOT 100% accurate. While the student is using the device away from school, parents should monitor their student's online activity and usage outside of school.

Cook County Schools has adopted Google's Workspace to provide free online communication and productivity tools for students and teachers. Accounts are created for all students when they enroll. With this account, students can create documents, spreadsheets, and presentations anywhere they have internet connection. Students will be able to share with their teachers and collaborate with their peers, working together on class assignments at school or at home. Google is one tool we use to develop our students' communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking skills.

The only information the school system transfers to Google in the creation of student accounts is the child's first name, last name, and email address which is the student's random PowerSchool student number (ex. 12345@cookhornets.org). Google is a signatory of the Student Privacy Pledge. (<https://studentprivacypledge.org/>) and provides an overview of its commitment to student security and privacy at this site: <https://www.google.com/edu/trust/>.

The Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) requires parents of children 13 and younger to provide consent with regards to the information collected online. In order to comply with COPPA, we are providing this notification to the parents of children 13 and younger that Cook County Schools will act as the parent's agent for all applications deemed appropriate for the student to enhance their learning experience.

Access and use of Google is a privilege. The district maintains the right to withdraw access when there is reason to believe violations of the law or district policies have occurred. The alleged violation

will be referred to the principal for further investigation. Pending review, a user's account may be suspended as part of such action.

PARENTS WISHING TO OPT OUT OF THEIR STUDENT'S ACCESS TO A CHROMEBOOK AND GOOGLE SUITES FOR EDUCATION OR ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL APPLICATION SHOULD PROVIDE IN WRITING WITHIN 10 DAYS OF COMPLETING THIS FORM TO THE BUILDING LEVEL PRINCIPAL.

The following is a list of prohibited activities and could lead to a discipline referral and/or the revocation of access to the Cook County School network:

- Illegal installation or transmission of copyrighted materials
- Any action that violates existing Board policy or public law
- Use of chat rooms, sites selling term papers, book reports, and other forms of student work
- Spamming - sending mass or inappropriate emails
- Gaining access to other students' accounts, files, and/or data
- Use of the school's Internet for financial or commercial gain or for any illegal activity
- Students are not allowed to give out personal information, for any reason, over the Internet unless directed by the teacher for educational purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, setting up Internet accounts including those necessary for chat rooms, email, etc.
- Participation in credit card fraud, electronic forgery, or other forms of illegal behavior
- Vandalism (any malicious attempt to harm or destroy hardware, software, or data, including but not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses or computer programs that can infiltrate computer systems and/or damage software components) of school equipment
- Transmission or accessing materials that are obscene, offensive, threatening, or otherwise intended to harass or demean recipients
- Bypassing the Cook County School Content Filter by any means