

Dear Parents,

We know that everyone is still adjusting to remote learning, and we appreciate all of the efforts of our educators, staff, and families in adapting to this new learning environment. CCSD59 wants to provide the best electronic tools and resources to our students, while also maintaining the data privacy of our students. To that end, we will continue to use existing tools for which we already have robust protections in place. We will also use our current district process to review and approve new resources to make sure that the technology resources we are offering to our students are both engaging and provide the best protections. Teachers and principals will provide updates to you as we roll out these new tools.

One of the new tools that we do want to make all parents aware of is the upcoming use of Google Hangouts Meet for video conferencing opportunities with students. By utilizing Hangouts Meet, staff will have the option of holding real time, virtual sessions with students who choose to participate. This resource will run on our district provided Chromebooks and tablets, as well as on many home computers or devices, and your child's teacher will be in contact if he or she will be utilizing the service. There are many options for using and joining a Hangout Meet, including the option to turn off the video camera, microphone, or participating simply by typing in responses to a chat window during the session.

Please remember that during classroom instruction, audio and video recordings and photography are not allowed without specific permission from an administrator or the teacher. The same applies to our remote learning instruction. Do not make audio or video recordings of remote learning instruction, or take photographs of your child during instruction, which include any staff member or other students without express permission from the staff member delivering the instruction or an administrator. If you receive such recordings or photographs from a source other than CCSD59, delete them and do not post or forward. We appreciate your cooperation.

Dr. Art Fessler CCSD59 Superintendent of Schools