

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We wanted to notify you that we are in the process of setting up Google Apps for Education at our district for students and teachers. This new system, powered by Google, will provide Gmail to our school, as well as a suite of other Google products such as Google Docs and Sites that will enable us to better communicate, share, and collaborate. We will be joining over 16 million other students and teachers already using Google Apps at schools around the world. We are excited to offer Google Apps as it represents an important step towards developing a 21st century approach to curriculum and learning. These tools will support the high levels of collaboration that are required in today's classroom to prepare students with the communication and collaboration skills they're going to need. All students and staff using the PASD Google Apps system are agreeing to follow the guidelines in Palmyra's Responsible Use Policy.

What's included in Google Apps?

- Gmail gives 7.5+ Gigabytes of email storage.
- Google Calendar lets you create and share school or class calendars and events.
- Google Docs lets you create and share documents, spreadsheets, presentations, drawings, and forms. You can also upload any file to Google Docs and share it with others.
- Google Sites makes it easy to collect, share, and publish all types of content in a single website through easy embeds of Google Docs, Calendars, videos and other media without HTML.
- Also included are Google Groups for mailing lists, discussion groups, and broad sharing.

What are the benefits of Google Apps and what's included?

- Anytime, anywhere access - Google Apps on any computer with internet access, which means you can access your email, calendars, and documents from school or at home.
- No flash drives required with documents and files stored in Google Docs. Google Apps will fully replace Weblockers in the 2013-2014 school year.
- Students can easily collaborate with students from other classes, buildings, schools, districts or even different countries, working together on group projects.
- Teachers can be involved throughout the whole assignment process providing comments and feedback directly in the documents.
- Students can develop an e-portfolio of work throughout their years at the school.

Parent Involvement

As a parent, we want you to be involved. You will have full access to your child's Google Account. To access your child's Google account, please go to www.google.com and login with the username and password.

Your child's Google Account username and password are:

Username: Studentid#@students.pasd.us *Example: 11111@students.pasd.us

Password: palmyra1234 *Students will be prompted to change passwords at the first login.

We are excited to be bringing these tools to the district. Do not hesitate to ask for more information about this decision and how it will impact your child's learning.

Regards,

Kim-Kathie Knudsen

Coordinator of Instructional Technology

kim-kathie_knudsen@pasd.us

