CHROMEBOOK TIPS

FOR PARENTS

**2020-2021**

**Talk with your family about online safety.**

Be clear about your family’s rules and expectations around technology, and consequences for inappropriate use. And most importantly, make sure they feel comfortable enough to ask for guidance when they encounter tough decisions.

**Don’t leave your child unsupervised with the Chromebook.**

It is best to have your child use the Chromebook in a room where you can keep an eye on your child’s internet usage. Please do not let your child use the Chromebook unsupervised, for example: in his/her bedroom alone. Adult presence helps to reduce the temptation to use sites (like Gmail, social media) inappropriately even though the district has a web filter in place. **It is always a good idea to** **take up the Chromebook at bedtime and let it charge in a room other than the child’s bedroom**. Limit your child’s Chromebook usage at bedtime. Sleep is important!

**Familiarize yourself with the computer, programs, and the method**

**that your child uses to communicate online.**

When possible, use the Internet with your children. Make sure you know your children's logon passwords - and no one else does. Research and know about the meanings of abbreviations, acronyms, emoticons used, etc.

You have the right to check your child’s Gmail and Internet History.

To check Internet History, open Google Chrome and press Ctrl and H at the same time. If there is a gap of deleted history, you will need to talk to your child about why it was deleted and review the rules, expectations, and consequences of using technology.

**Teach your family to communicate responsibly.**

Here’s a good rule of thumb: if you wouldn’t say it to someone’s face, don’t text it, email it, instant-message it, or post it as a comment on someone’s page. Talk about how what you say online might make other people feel, and come up with family guidelines about what kind of communication is appropriate.

**Talk to other adults.**

Open the conversation to your friends, extended family, teachers, coaches and counselors. Other parents and professionals who work with children can be a great resource to help you decide what feels right for your family, especially if you’re dealing with an area of technology that you are unfamiliar with.