

Central Greene Chromebook Program Handbook

Grades K-12

2020-2021

Central Greene School District continues to prepare its students with 21st century college and career ready skills. This year we will begin our 1:1 integration of technology, where every student in grades K through 12 will receive a Chromebook for learning. This initiative will help ensure we graduate students who can work digitally, collaborate meaningfully, and communicate in connected, real-world ways.

Chromebooks are laptop devices which run the Chrome OS (operating system) by Google. They are “thin client” devices and have virtually no hard drive storage. Essentially they are web browsers, designed to be used to connect to the Internet. These devices require most applications and data run in the cloud, or on remote web servers. Chromebooks automatically update their OS ensuring they remain current with the latest improvements. To store or access personal files with a Chromebook, a user must have access to cloud-based storage, like Google Drive, or attach a USB flashdrive.

The Central Greene School District has a Google management license that connects our staff and students via Google Drive and its productivity suite. This license provides our learners with all of the Google Apps for Education and their available features. Google offers thousands of educational apps that teachers and students can use to enhance learning. Wherever students go, when they sign into Google Chrome with their account, these apps are instantly available.

In this handbook you will find the district’s expectations, for students in grades K-12, of proper handling of Chromebooks, describes students’ responsibilities and ways they can best take care of the devices, and includes an agreement for them and their parents. Understanding and abiding by this agreement is necessary in order to provide the best use of Chromebooks to our students. Its regulations, along with the District policy on Internet Acceptable Use and Student Handbooks, provide safeguards to ensure students have a positive experience, as we provide a 1:1 integration of educational technology for all.

As we begin this year with Chromebooks, we are excited about the possibilities. We know our teachers and students will find new apps, new lessons, and new discoveries as they prepare for tomorrow’s opportunities.

Chromebook Loan Agreement

A Chromebook and accessories in good working order are being lent to each student. Each student's acceptance of the equipment indicates the student's and parent/guardian's acceptance of the responsibility to care for the equipment and ensure that it is kept secure and functional, as expressed in this document.

This equipment remains at all times the property of the Central Greene School District and is lent to the student for educational purposes only. The student may not deface or destroy this property in any way. The equipment is for the use of the student only; family and friends should not use the equipment. Inappropriate use of the device may result in the student losing his or her right to the use of the Chromebook. The equipment will be returned when requested by Central Greene School District, at the end of the school year, or sooner, if the student enrollment changes, or withdraws from the District prior to the end of the school year.

The District property may be used by the student only for non-commercial purposes, in accordance with District policies and rules, the District's Internet Acceptable Use Policy, as well as local, state, and federal law.

Students may install Chrome apps from the District approved app store. But please note that personal apps, videos and photos may be deleted if required to free up space for District apps and documents.

The student may not make or allow others to make any attempts to add, delete, access, or modify District owned information on any Chromebook or any school owned computer. The Central Greene School District network is provided for the academic use of all students and staff. The student agrees to take no action that would interfere with the efficient, academic use of the school network.

Asset tags have been placed on the Chromebooks. These labels are not to be removed or modified. If they become damaged or missing, contact the IT support staff for replacements.

In order to login to your device, an email account—a school licensed Gmail account – has been set up. For grades K-10 students will use the following format: firstname.lastname.yearofgraduation@cgsd.org. Students in grades 11-12 will use the format of firstname.lastname@cgsd.org. Students in grades K-3 do not have access to email, but will use their email address to login to their device. Those in grades 4-7 can use email for appropriate academic communication with other students and staff members within the Central Greene domain only. This email is for communication within the School District and approved senders. Students in grades 8-12 can utilize email both in and outside of the district.

The student agrees to use best efforts to assure that the District property is not damaged or rendered inoperable by any electronic malware while in the student's possession.

Responsibilities

Student Responsibilities:

The Chromebook is an important learning tool and is to be used for educational purposes only. In order to take the Chromebook home each day, you must be willing to accept the following responsibilities.

- When using the Chromebook at home, at school, and anywhere else I may take it, I will follow the policies of the Central Greene School District, particularly the Student Handbook and the Internet Acceptable Use Policy, and abide by all local, state, and federal laws.
- I will treat the Chromebook with care by not dropping it, getting it wet, leaving it in an automobile, leaving it outdoors, unsecured, or in a place where it may become damaged or stolen.
- I will not lend the Chromebook to anyone, not even my friends or family members; it will stay in my possession at all times.
- I will not remove District-owned programs or files from the Chromebook.
- I will charge my Chromebook nightly so that it has a full charge at the start of school every day.
- I understand that if I leave my Chromebook at home or do not charge it, I am still responsible for getting coursework done as if I had my Chromebook present and charged.
- I will bring the Chromebook to school every day. If I leave my Chromebook at home for multiple consecutive days, I may be called upon to bring the device in to verify possession and condition of the Chromebook.
- I agree that email (or any electronic communication) should be used only for appropriate, legitimate and responsible communication.
- I will keep all accounts and passwords assigned to me secure and will not share them with anyone.
- I will not attempt to repair the Chromebook. If it is not working properly, I will notify teachers or administrators.
- I will bring the Chromebook to an administrator if it needs repair. If it needs repair, the student's record will be checked, a loaner may be checked out if the student is eligible and a device is available, and appropriate fees will be charged to the student.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

Your son/daughter has been issued a Chromebook to improve his/her education this year. It is essential that the following guidelines are followed to ensure the safe, efficient and ethical operation of this computer.

- I will supervise my child's use of the Chromebook at home.
- I will discuss our family's values and expectations regarding the use of the Internet at home.
- I will supervise my child's use of the Internet and email.
- I will not attempt to repair the Chromebook, nor will I attempt to clean it with anything other than a dry cloth.
- I will report to the school any problems with the Chromebook and will not delete any District software.
- I will make sure my child recharges the Chromebook nightly.
- I will make sure my child brings the Chromebook to school every day.
- I understand that if my child comes to school without the Chromebook, I may be called to bring it to school.
- I agree to make sure that the Chromebook is returned to school when requested or upon my child's withdrawal from the Central Greene School District.

Caring for your Chromebook

- **Bring it to school every day.** Chromebooks are intended for use at school each day. Teachers will plan their lessons assuming that all students will bring their Chromebooks with them with plenty of charge. In addition to teacher expectations for Chromebook use, school messages, announcements, calendars, and schedules may be accessed using Chromebooks. You are expected to be responsible to bring your Chromebook to all classes, unless specifically instructed to do otherwise by your teacher or principal.
- **Charge your Chromebook every night.** Be sure to have a full charge as you enter school each day. Make charging your Chromebook part of your nightly routine before going to bed on school nights.
- **Makeup work is a must if you do without.** If you leave your Chromebook at school, or come to class without a charge, you are still responsible for all your coursework. If you leave your Chromebook at home for multiple consecutive days, your teacher or principal may request you bring the device in to verify possession and condition of your Chromebook. Repeatedly not having your Chromebook at hand or not having it charged for class, may be cause for disciplinary action.
- **Keep only school-appropriate media on your computer.** Inappropriate media should not be on the Chromebook and may not be used as a screensaver or background image. The Chromebook should not be used to take photos unless as part of an assignment or instruction by school staff.
- **Do not take images, video or audio without subject consent and school staff permission.** Taking pictures and recording audio or video without permission is inappropriate, and without consent is unlawful. Posting them to the Internet is a violation of our school policies.
- **Obey copyright.** Individually purchased, legal, school-appropriate media is allowed on your Chromebook; however, you may be asked to remove any media files at any time. Illegal downloading and distribution of copyrighted works are serious offences and carry with them the risk of substantial fines and criminal prosecution. Copyright infringement violates the District's Internet Acceptable Use Policy and leads to disciplinary action.
- **Abide by media content expectations.** Parents should work in conjunction with teachers and administrators to set expectations for appropriate apps, content, music, videos, games, and etexts on your Chromebook. The following are NOT allowed on student Chromebooks: apps rated 17+ or ESRB M(ature), films rated R and NC-17, television shows with TV-MA-rated content, and media rated Explicit Content. Inappropriate content is not allowed and any violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action.
- **Keep browsing safe and through the school filter.** The District's IT department and technology support staff work responsibly to ensure that potentially inappropriate sites are blocked by the district's internet filter, in accordance with all applicable laws. Students are expected to abide by the Internet Acceptable Use Policy, and are in violation if they access sites through proxies or otherwise circumvent the school filter. At home it is parents' and guardians' responsibility to monitor students' Internet access. For more information on Internet safety, apps, and ratings, please check the guides at commonsensemedia.org.
- **Turn down the volume and pull out the headphones.** Speakers are to be muted at all times, unless you are granted permission by your teacher for instructional purposes. You may also use headphones at teacher discretion.

- **Leave the District-loaded apps on your Chromebook.** Do not delete any District-loaded apps, folder, files, or file management software. Deletion of certain files or apps will interfere with your ability to complete coursework.

- **Avoid eating and drinking while using your Chromebook.** Doing so puts your Chromebook at risk to crumbs and spills that can do permanent damage to the function and life of your device. This is considered neglect.

- **Never leave your Chromebook unsecured.** Your Chromebook should never be in an unlocked locker, car or any unsupervised area. This is considered neglect.

- **Never leave your Chromebook exposed to extreme elements.** Chromebooks are sensitive to heat and liquids, therefore leaving them in cars, direct sunlight, outdoors, or anywhere they could get hot, cold, damp or wet should be avoided. This is considered neglect.

- **Notify IT support, teachers, or administration if your Chromebook has a problem.** Whether your Chromebook is not functioning properly, has suffered some damage, or is missing, it is your responsibility to let a school official know as soon as possible. Never try to repair your Chromebook yourself. Clean only with a dry cloth.

Limit damage. More than one occurrence of loss, theft or damage in 30 school days will be interpreted as neglect. More than two occurrences of loss, theft or damage during the school calendar year will be interpreted as neglect.

No Privacy Expectation

No one should have any expectation of privacy or confidentiality with regard to any usage of a Chromebook issued by the District, regardless whether the usage happens for school-related purposes or not. At any time, without prior notice of consent, the District may access, supervise, view, monitor, log, and record student use of Chromebooks at any time for any reason related to the operation of the District. At any time, the District may inspect the contents and condition of Chromebooks. By using a Chromebook, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.

Monitoring Software

School administrators, teachers, and instructional technology staff may use monitoring software that allows them to view screens and activity on student Chromebooks at school.

Files Downloaded onto Chromebooks

All images, documents, files, and apps downloaded onto the Chromebook become the property of the Central Greene School District as allowable by law.