



**MALDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
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## **Google Apps for Education and Malden's 1:1 Program for Elementary and Middle School**

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

In the coming weeks, your student will be issued a Malden Public Schools (MPS) Google account ([username@maldenps.org](mailto:username@maldenps.org)). In addition your student, if they are in grades 6-8, will be issued a school Chromebook to participate in their classes. These tools support high levels of collaboration and are required in today's classroom to prepare students with the communication and collaboration skills they're going to need in the future. Google+ which contains social media tools, will not be available. Gmail (email) access will not be available to students in grades K-7. Only students in grade 8 have the ability to use gmail. Below are some frequently asked questions that may help you understand our program.

### **What is it?**

The term 1:1 (one to one) means that every student will be issued their own device to use in their classes. Only students in grades 6-8 will be assigned a device.

### **Why are we doing this?**

Providing devices to students gives them quick access to information, opens up creative opportunities, and prepares them with the skills needed to be successful in a 21st century world. This program also ensures that all of our students have equal access to technology and digital resources.

### **How does this help my student?**

Here are some benefits we've seen in providing students with devices:

- increases access to digital content and resources
- increases students' access to teachers
- provides teachers additional ways to assess student learning
- assists teachers in providing differentiated and personalized instruction to all students

### **How are you protecting my student?**

Malden public schools has many guidelines and agents in place to ensure your student is protected while navigating digital resources. We use a Google Apps for Education Safe Search Policy and we have firewalls in place to ensure that content is educationally appropriate and used for educational purposes. In addition, we ask that families and students review the attached Acceptable Use Policy. This policy is reviewed in your student's computer class prior to receiving an account.

### **How can I help?**

Attached to this sheet is a copy of the MPS Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). Before your student is issued a device or account, you will need to sign and return this copy indicating that you and your student agree to the terms as specified in the AUP. The use of a MPS device and account are considered privileges.

Since the resources your student will be using are available online, this provides an opportunity to talk with your student about the services and Apps they are using. Creating an open dialog with your student about how and why they use technology will protect their safety and promote positive uses of digital technologies at home and at school.

### **Can they take their device home?**

No. Currently, only Malden High students are allowed to take their devices home.

### **How much will this cost me?**

For students in grades 2-8, there is no cost for your student to participate in this program.

### **How can I learn more?**

- Learn more about some of the Google apps your student is using at: <https://goo.gl/KCL7e2>
- Learn more about teaching your students to be safe online at: <https://goo.gl/Lkr94f>
- Look for parent Google nights to be hosted at your student's school during the school year. On these nights, you will be introduced to some of the tools your student is using in their classes.

Thank for helping us support your student's success. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your student's administrative team.