



WALTHALL
COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Teachers teaching. Students learning. Schools improving.

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Date: 7-24-20

To: Walthall County School District – Students/Parents/Families/Community

Re: Walthall County School District's **1-to-1 Initiative**

A “1-to-1 Initiative” is a common way of referring to district/school programs where each student receives an electronic device to help facilitate their learning. “1-to-1” or *one* device for every student. The Walthall County School District is going 1-to-1 and supplying each student with a Chromebook device for the upcoming school year. This device is property of the Walthall County School District and is an instructional device with the function of providing each student with access to required educational materials needed to ensure student success. The Chromebook will allow student access to Google Apps for Education, educational web-based tools, as well as many other useful sites. The supplied device is an educational tool not intended for gaming, social networking, or high-end computing.

Our students are already familiar with using Chromebooks, as they have experience using them in their classes. To date, we have utilized classroom sets of these devices that remain in teachers’ classrooms or sometimes shared between neighboring classrooms. Yet in order to make this 1-to-1 initiative a reality, the district needed additional Chromebooks. Planning ahead, we purchased additional Chromebooks and protective cases in June, but with high demand, they are not expected to arrive until mid or late August. Once they arrive, our technology department will need time to unbox and configure the devices for student use.

As for now, with reallocation of the supply of Chromebooks that we already have, students who enroll in the virtual/online learning model, if requested by their parents, will receive a Chromebook at the beginning of the school year. (*NOTE: Right now we do not have protective cases for the Chromebooks – so please be careful with them.*) As mentioned above, we ordered the cases, and they should be in by the end of August. Once the parent/guardian completes the virtual/online request form from the website, someone from the school will make contact with further instructions on how to receive their Chromebook(s). Again, for now this is only for those who enroll the virtual/online model. For students who enroll in the 4-day per week on-campus model, they will also receive Chromebooks when we receive our order (mid-late August.) Again, we just do not have enough current Chromebooks and cases for everyone to take one home at this time.

Additionally, please know that parents/guardians and students **MUST** sign and return the WCSD Chromebook Agreement and Consent form before the district will issue the Chromebook to the student. These forms, along with a Technology Handbook, will be sent home when we are ready to distribute the Chromebooks. We will collect the Chromebooks at the end of each school year.

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