

August 2018



Dear Families,

Fairfield Public Schools is excited to begin an Innovative Learning initiative that will help prepare our students with the future-ready skills that are so necessary for their education today and beyond graduation.

The cornerstone of this initiative is described in the recently crafted Vision of the Graduate for the students of Fairfield Public Schools: “All students will be: Critical Thinkers, Collaborators, Communicators, Innovators, Goal-Directed and Resilient Learners, and Responsible Citizens.” The Innovative Learning initiative will help us accomplish all these important goals and propel Fairfield students forward in their education.

For several years, our students have shared laptops and Chromebooks within their classrooms, but this made it difficult for teachers to plan and students to have adequate access for multi-day projects. This year FPS will provide Chromebooks to all students in seventh grade and eventually to all students at the high school level, starting in grade nine at the start of the 2018-19 school year. A Chromebook is like a laptop that runs the Google operating system and gives students access to all internet-based applications, including all Google and Microsoft Office products. Students will be allowed to keep the Chromebooks for the school year to use for all school-based projects and work.

Students will be supported with enhanced lessons on Digital Citizenship – such as one’s digital footprint, cyberbullying, and privacy/security issues. We will be continuing our ongoing support of teachers with professional learning on the use of Chromebooks in the classroom and effective strategies for incorporating technology, when appropriate, into their lessons. We will also be providing workshops for parents to support the monitoring of their children’s use of the devices and address privacy concerns. A Parent and Student Guide is provided to assist families. FPS also has a web page including a Frequently Asked Questions section.

We feel strongly that the Innovative Learning initiative will not only increase equity and access for our students, but it will enhance teaching practices, student engagement, and achievement. We know that today’s education needs to be personalized and student-centered, provide opportunities to apply and demonstrate knowledge, connect students with others within and outside of their community, and be accessible well beyond the confines of the school day.

Please review the guide for more information, including Parent Information Session times.

Kind regards,

Dr. Toni Jones

Superintendent of Schools
Fairfield Public Schools
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