

Trinity Area School District



Chromebook Experience



Frequently Asked Questions about the Chromebook

Q: Will the computer work with other peripherals?

A: Students are permitted to use their own peripheral devices with the chromebooks, but they will not be supplied by the school. Peripheral devices such as computer mice, headphones, flash drives and SD Cards are permitted.

Q: What software is used on the Chromebook?

A: Students will use Google Docs, Canvas and Classlink Virtual Desktop. This provides students with a web-based office suite, including a word processor, spreadsheet, presentation program and more. The student will use the electronic version of their textbook via the Google Chrome web browser.

Q: How are the students expected to charge their Chromebook batteries? How many hours per day do the batteries need to be charged?

A: The Chromebooks must be charged at home each night and returned fully-charged to school. Chromebook batteries are operable for approximately six hours before charging is necessary.

Q: How will our children save their files while at school and at home? Will they store files on the hard drive and then remove their work periodically?

A: All student work will be saved on their Google Drive or on their H:\ Drive via the Classlink Virtual Desktop.

Q: Can students download apps?

A: Some apps are allowed. Student access to the web store is limited to apps that have been approved for use.

Q: Can you Print from the devices?

A: Digital online file sharing between staff and students is one of the great advantages of the Chromebooks and is an easy and efficient way to distribute and turn in assignments without printing. It also saves on paper, ink and toner use, thereby saving the district money. We are encouraging staff to try to limit printing of assignments going forward.

Q: Will devices be kept by students over summer?

A: No. Devices will be turned in at the end of the school year so the district can do maintenance on them. Devices will be re-issued at the start of the school year to continuing students. Devices issued to students who leave the district (move, graduate, etc.) should be returned before the student leaves the district.

Q: Can the district track web history?

A: Yes. The district can track information on what sites students were on, when they were on them, and how long they were on those sites. Students should only visit sites that are approved by the district and those that are not in violation of the Acceptable Use Policy. Violations of the policy can result in disciplinary action, including the student being suspended from using the school network and device use.

Q: Why do our children really need Chromebooks? Why is this necessary?

A: The best answer to this question can be found by listening to those who have experienced Chromebook schools. *Anytime Anywhere Learning explains:

“Chromebook learning forces you to rethink the computer’s role in the classroom as well as in the curriculum. In a Chromebook environment, you can move beyond the narrow idea of computing for its own sake and, instead, view technology as a tool for fostering productivity in learning. When all students have their own mobile computers, the Chromebook becomes an integral part of the instructional process. “Students explore more broadly than ever before, and technology-Chromebooks and the wealth of tools and information available on the World Wide Web-serves as a vehicle for this exploration.”

“Today’s technology enables faster and more intense learning.” In time, the curriculum will focus less on mere content mastery and, instead, emphasize the ability to ask probing questions, the skills to research those questions and the means to make use of the results. Technology allows teachers to focus less on simple recall and more on students’ new skills: comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. The significance of new technology is that it is a tool for increasing productivity and enables teachers to better achieve common, long-held, and traditional goals for education.

Q: Accidents happen even under the best conditions. What happens if the Chromebook is damaged?

A: Please contact the technology department if the Chromebook is damaged. The damage will be assessed and every effort will be made to fix the damage. If the damage is not repairable, a new chromebook will be issued to the student. If administration determines that the damage was due to negligence or intentional, the student will be charged for the cost of the chromebook.

Q: What should we do if our child’s computer is stolen?

A: If you believe that your child’s computer has been stolen, there are several steps you will need to follow. If the chromebook was stolen from your home, inform the local authorities about the theft. Next, report the information to the School District by contacting the building Principal. If the chromebook was stolen within the school, report the theft to the principal. At the time, the principal will inform the school resource officer.

Q: Who will be servicing the Chromebooks? How long will it take to complete repairs and have a Chromebook back to the student?

A: Trinity Area School District is responsible for diagnosing and performing all repairs to the equipment. Replacement chromebooks will be available if the old chromebook is not able to be repaired. Please report any broken chromebooks to the technology department as soon as possible.

Q: What security programs will be implemented and how often will they be upgraded?

A: The Trinity Area School District, in accordance with federal law, filters all Internet access when your child is using computer equipment in our schools. This filtering of objectionable material is updated through a subscription program. Although no filtering program is fool-proof, we make every effort to safeguard our students through regular monitoring.

Additionally, the TASD will randomly audit the computer systems on a regular basis to check for hardware and software problems that would compromise the integrity of the computer system and our networks.

The District filter will function over any Internet connection and the school district network.

TASD CHROMEBOOK AGREEMENT - PARENT/STUDENT

The Trinity Area School District has issued your child a Chromebook to improve and personalize his/her education while integrating technologies into the classrooms/home. It is essential that the following guidelines be followed to ensure the safe, efficient, and proper operation of your child's Chromebook. Failure to comply with any of the following guidelines will constitute a breach of contract.

Your ChromeBook is an important learning tool and is for educational purposes only, in order to take your Chromebook home each day; you must be willing to accept the following responsibilities. The failure to obey any of the following requirements will result in a breach of contract.

- I will supervise my child's use of the Chromebook at home.

- I will discuss family/school's expectations regarding the use of the Internet and will supervise my child's use of the internet.

- I will not attempt to clean or repair the Chromebook.

- I will not use the Chromebook for personal use.

- I will make sure my child recharges the Chromebook daily at home.

- I understand that if my child comes to school without his/her Chromebook, I will have to make arrangements to bring it to school.

- I understand, have signed, and returned the Trinity Area School District Internet Safe and Acceptable Use Policy for Computer Technology so that my child can access the Internet at school or at home using the Chromebook computer.

- I will agree to pay for any loss/theft or damages deemed intentional to the chromebook, power supply, and/or carrying case.

- I will treat my Chromebook with care by not dropping it, getting it wet, leaving it outdoors, or using it with food or drink nearby.

- I will not loan my Chromebook to my friends or family, or allow anyone else to use my Chromebook. It will stay in my possession at all times.

- I will not add or remove programs or files from my Chromebook.

- I will sign and follow the Trinity Area School District Internet Safe and Acceptable Use Policy for Computer Technology when using my Chromebook at home and at school.

- I will not attempt to repair my Chromebook.

- I will not apply stickers, labels, or anything similar to my chromebook.

- I will recharge my Chromebook each night at home.

- I will bring my Chromebook to school every day. I will turn it in at the end of the school year.

- I will keep the condition of the Chromebook the same as it was when I received it (no stickers or markings placed on the Chromebook).

In the case of a student using the ChromeBook between two households, both signatures are required.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Print Name

Parent/Guardian Print Name

Date

Student Signature

Student Print Name

Date

