

What Parents Should Know about Google Apps for Education



Google Apps for Education is a free service to PUSD students. It includes the use of email, calendars, documents and sites through the convenience of a web browser.

Beginning with the 2013-14 school year, all students will be granted access to Google Apps for Education with their own unique accounts.

Why are we giving students Google Apps for Education Accounts?

Google Apps for Education is a powerful suite of applications, comparable to Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, that allows for collaboration between students and teachers. Many of our teachers have been looking for new ways to improve student engagement, and Google Apps for Education is a great way to accomplish that.

How is my student's privacy being protected by the District?

We believe it is extremely important that your student's privacy is protected. In order to create a student account, only the student's initials and a random four digit number are used, not the student's ID number. For example, student John Smith (ID# 98765) might have a Google Apps for Education Account that looks like js5563@pleasantonusd.net. In addition, the student's name is sent to Google; this is shown when a student composes an email or shares a document.

Your student's account information will not be listed in our internal PUSD directory nor will it be shared publicly. This will prevent students from looking up each others' addresses. A student will need to share their email address with other students in order to make contact. Teachers will learn their students' email addresses through our internal student information system, Q.

Finally, our K-5 students will be allowed to send and receive emails only from within the pleasantonusd.net network. They will never receive email from the greater Internet.

More Information

For more information about how Google Apps for Education can be used to improve teaching and learning, please visit: <http://www.google.com/enterprise/apps/education/benefits.html>