

Rib Lake School District

Parents' Guide to Safe and Responsible Students

The Rib Lake Public School District recognizes that with new technologies come new challenges to both teachers and parents. Below is a series of suggestions drawn from a wide variety of professional sources that may aid you, the parent, in effectively guiding your child's use of the Chromebook.

- 1) **Take extra steps to protect your child.** Encourage your child to use and store the Chromebook in an open area of your home, such as the kitchen or family room, so you can monitor what your child is doing online. Use the Internet with your child to help develop safe surfing habits. Children often model adult behavior.
- 2) **Go where your child goes online.** Monitor the places that your child visits. Let your child know that you're there, and help teach her/him how to act as s/he works and socializes online.
- 3) **Review your child's friends list.** You may want to limit your child's online "friends" to people your child actually knows and is working with in real life.
- 4) **Understand sites' privacy policies.** Internet sites should spell out your rights to review and delete your child's information.
- 5) **Limit the time your student is on the Chromebook.** While the Chromebook is a very engaging device, it is a schoolwork device. Care and constant monitoring will reduce your child's exposure to excessive use.
- 6) **Report unwelcome or malicious online threats.** Report in a timely fashion to the school any online interactions that can be considered threatening.
- 7) **Help your child develop a routine.** Many parents have found success by helping create a routine for their child's computer use. Define a routine as to how the Chromebook is cared for and when and where its use is appropriate.
- 8) **Take a look at the apps and programs.** It is to the advantage of the students, parents, and school that the parents have a working understanding of the programs and student work found on the Chromebook.
- 9) **Read and share with your child the RLSA One-to-One Technology, and Chromebooks Guide.** By reading and discussing the care and use policies, you can create a clear set of expectations and limitations for your child.

General Tips for Parents for Internet Safety:

- Talk with your child about online behavior, safety, and security early on and continually. Set rules for the Internet just as you do on use of all media sources such as television, phones, movies and music.
- Monitor your child's computer use. Know their passwords, profiles, and blogs. When the Chromebooks are taken home by the students, it is strongly recommended that it will always be used in a common family location.
- Let children show you what they can do online and visit their favorite sites.
- Set limits and clear expectations for computer use.
- Look into safeguarding programs or options your online service provider may offer; these may include filtering capabilities.