GCMS School District





DIGITAL LITERACY AT SCHOOL AND HOME

On January 3, 2017 GCMS teachers and staff participated in an Institute Day learning more about technology and digital literacy. The keynote speaker applauded GCMS for planning a day built around incorporating technology into the classroom. He referenced a recent study which found that of the Kindergartners entering school this year, 65% will eventually end up working in jobs that do not exist today. The majority of these jobs will probably require people who know how to use technology effectively; but more importantly, people who know how to learn from and about technology.

GCMS teachers and staff model this ability to learn from and about technology in their everyday interactions with students. It is common to see students teaching other students, and sometimes even teaching the teacher, how to use technology. Furthermore, teachers often encourage students to explore technological options on their own rather than providing students with a specific path to the answer.

At home, you can reinforce digital literacy skills in simple ways. Families with young children can play with and explore technology together. Likewise, older children can be encouraged to teach parents or themselves how to use technology effectively. It is also important that you recognize both positive and negative uses of technology and discuss both types as a family.



DID YOU KNOW?

GCMS School District has the following technologies available for our students:

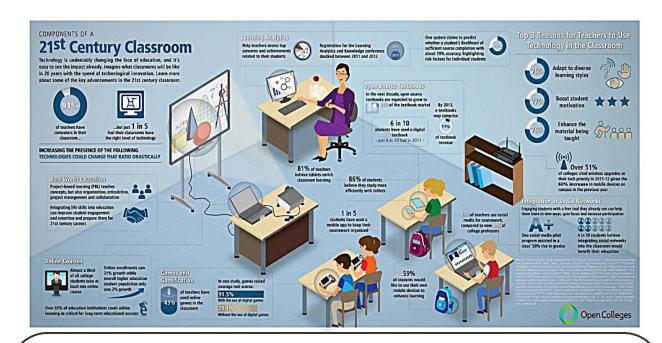
- → ES: 49 iPads, 100 Chromebooks, 30 desktops in the computer lab
- → MS: 16 iPads, 100 Chromebooks, 30 computers in lab and 12 computers in the library
- → HS: 80 Chromebooks, 24 stations in the Mac lab, and 76 stations located throughout various locations such as the library, mini lab, and laptop lab

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION FROM GCMS

The GCMS School District offers a variety of ways for parents and families to interact with us electronically. Our homepage at www.gcmsk12.org is the best source for information on calendars and available resources. Through the links on this website you can access everything from lunch menus to the PTA website and our online library of eBooks.

You can also use the website to find the email address of any teacher or staff member you may want to contact. The GCMS Fall Parent Survey results indicated that the majority of parents prefer email as the primary mode of contact from the district and their student's teacher. Therefore, teachers have been encouraged to use email when appropriate. Please contact Don Worthington at djworth@gcmsk12.org if you need to add or update your email address in Lumen.

GCMS School District also maintains a Facebook page at @gcmsunit5. The Facebook page is your best source for up-to-the-minute announcements and human interest stories from our classrooms, athletics, and activities.



No more worrying about data usage, our school district now has wireless access for public use! GCMSPublic is accessible in all of our buildings!!

- February 17: Half-Day Student Attendance-- 11:30 Dismissal
- February 20: President's Day-- No School
- * March 2: Middle School Open House sponsored by Title I
- March 6: MAP Testing at MS
- * March 14: End of Quarter 3
- March 18: First Saturday of Spring Break
- April 3-April 12: PARCC Testing at Elementary School
- April 5: SAT Testing for Juniors
- April 14: Good Friday- No School
- * April 18-28: PARCC Testing at the Middle School
- * April 17: Easter Monday-- No School

