



Mount Pisgah Christian School

Middle School Chromebook Program

Dear Middle School Parents,

Our mission statement, the essence of which is *College Prep. Life Ready.*, is the driving force behind everything we do at Mount Pisgah Christian School.

We believe that students entering the workforce in the 21st century need technology skills that will allow them to contribute to the success of businesses and organizations in a highly competitive, technological and global society.



Therefore, we want to equip students with the skills they need to truly be “Life Ready” by issuing each student a Chromebook to use during the school year.

Goals of the Chromebook Program:

- Create a one-to-one consistent learning and teaching environment for students to engage in meaningful research, collaboration and communication.
- Empower students to use technology as a tool to enhance learning and creativity.
- Help students to develop basic technology skills in a controlled environment where online safety and security is managed by the School.

School-Provided Software

Microsoft Office Suite (Microsoft 365)

The School provides access to Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, One Note, Outlook and other Microsoft programs through Microsoft 365. Students are provided free access to this software during the time they are enrolled at Mount Pisgah. On Chromebooks, students will be able to access a Chromebook enabled version of Microsoft Products.



Google Apps for Education (G Suite)

Mount Pisgah is a Google Apps for Education school, which means that each middle and upper school student is provided a school-issued Google account. GAFE accounts provide:



- Powerful collaboration tools for learning, which are a key component in equipping students with 21st century skills.
- Safe, secure and monitored access to Google's large array of tools for education. Since these are school-issued accounts, Mount Pisgah's administration can monitor access to Google products.
- Cloud-based file management and web-based access, which means students can access their work from any computer or device with access to the internet.

Schoology

Schoology is a web-based learning management system that functions as a central hub for all teachers, students and parents to access academic information. From their devices, students can access a calendar of assignments, a gradebook and resources and links available for each course. Schoology also provides online submission of assignments and other interactive instructional tools.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why are you issuing Chromebooks and not a full-function laptop?

Chromebooks are highly regarded educational devices and are ideal for middle schoolers as they learn to use basic educational technology tools. The simplicity, ease of use and fast operation of Chromebooks maximizes instructional time for teachers and students in the classroom. Chromebooks encourage students to learn the fundamentals of cloud computing and all the skills they learn on web-based programs can be transferred to any device they use in the future.

Why do we pay the fee every year?

The technology fee covers ongoing technology costs for the Chromebook program such as enhancements made to our networking infrastructure, access to online software and creation tools, Chromebook support, and professional development training.

Why can't we buy our own Chromebook and let our child bring it?

One of the primary goals of the Chromebook program is to create a consistent learning environment where students always have access to a device. If a student breaks or damages a device, Mount Pisgah will replace it the same day that the issue is noted to ensure access to the device for learning. With student-owned devices, repairs and replacements may take several days and hinder productivity. Also, the Chromebooks are enrolled and managed by the School's Google Apps for Education domain and personal devices cannot be enrolled.