Dear parents and caregivers,

As we embark on our supplemental learning plan with a strong focus on connecting with and supporting our students online, Saskatoon Public Schools remains committed to protecting the privacy of students and staff. New software, online tools, and apps must meet our standards for ensuring the security of student and staff information.

There are two video conferencing services available for our staff members to use with students and parents – Google Meet and Zoom.

Google Meet is available to all staff members to use with students through our G Suite for Education license. While Google Meet is easy to use, it requires all participants to sign into Google using their school division (SPSD) login and password. For students, their SPSD login is their studentnumber@spsd.sk.ca, then their password. For example, if their student number is 123456, then their login is 123456@spsd.sk.ca. If your child has forgotten their password, please contact your teacher and request to have it reset.

Zoom is a video conferencing service that provides easy access through a computer or personal device and does not require a login to attend a meeting. We are aware of security concerns that have been raised with regards to Zoom. We have provided our staff members with the necessary steps to mitigate these issues, which include, but are not limited to: using a password for access to the meeting, ensuring the privacy of the meeting links, locking the meeting, using virtual waiting rooms to admit participants, and limiting screen sharing. Students are reminded to keep meeting IDs, passwords, and Zoom meeting links confidential.

Every platform comes with its own challenges, and we are continually assessing the safety and security of each one used by our school division. If you have concerns about the use of Zoom, please raise them with your child’s teacher.

User information will be made available both online and through your child’s teacher. Understanding there is a variety of comfort levels for students, parents and staff, our goal is to provide as smooth an experience as possible, given these unique circumstances. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.

Our school division’s administrative procedure pertaining to technology is AP 140: Computer/Online Services Responsible Use. Please check it out if you’d like more information.

Sincerely,

Jason Dunk, Chief Technology Officer

Saskatoon Public Schools