



Dear Parents,

Rockwall ISD utilizes Google Apps for Education (GAFE) for students.

The following services are available to each student and hosted by Google as part of Rockwall ISD's online presence in Google Apps for Education:

- Docs- word processing, spreadsheet, drawing and presentation.
- Drive- space for storing files.
- Calendar- a student calendar providing the ability to organize schedules, daily activities and assignments.
- Classroom- integrates GAFE services in an online classroom environment that increases communication and organization.

Using GAFE, students collaboratively create, edit and share files for school related projects. These files are entirely online and available from any internet-connected device.

Prior to our implementation of GAFE, research on Google privacy policies was conducted. Google Apps for Education is a separate offering from Google Apps for Consumers. GAFE provides additional security, administrative, and archiving controls for education and non-profit organizations and has a separate and distinct privacy policy than the consumer platform. Rockwall ISD has no plans to use Google consumer services for students within our GAFE accounts.

Here are a few quick facts about Google Apps for Education and student privacy:

- GAFE does not collect, maintain, use, or share student personal information beyond that needed for authorized educational/school purposes.
- GAFE has permanently removed all ad scanning in Apps for Education services.
- Data in GAFE accounts (Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Drive) belongs to the account owner, not Google.
- Google Apps for Education complies with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Google has signed the Student Privacy Pledge (<http://studentprivacypledge.org/>) authored by the Future of Privacy Forum (FPF) and the Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA) for their GAFE accounts.

If you do not want your student to have access to a Rockwall ISD GAFE account, please log in to Skyward Family Access and complete the GAFE Opt-Out Form.

If you have any questions, please contact Rikki Smith, Director of Instructional Technology and Media Services at rikki.smith@rockwallisd.org