

Date, 2007

Dear Goddard Students, Parents, and Guardians:

I want to let you know that this year, your student's _____ class will have the opportunity to participate in a "blog." A weblog, or blog, is a special type of web page that can be created and easily updated using a web browser. Here's how it will work in this class:

- The blog will be developed by your student's teacher and the content and conversation on the blog will be related to the curriculum of the class.
- To participate, your student will need an e-mail address.
- If your student does not have an e-mail address, please follow the instructions, enclosed, that tell you how to get a free address for your student. If you are unable to help your student with this, we will help your student do this at school.
- Only GMS students in this class and their teacher will be able participate in the blog. Only they will be able to read the blog and to write (or "post") to the blog.
- The teacher will read and approve all postings before they appear on the blog.
- Because we understand that not all students have internet access at home, students will have ample time to participate in this project.
- Goddard's computer labs are open to students during after-school study club (Mondays and Thursdays, from 2:45 to 4 p.m.), and during lunch. (Students need a pass from their teacher to leave the cafeteria for the library.)
- Students may participate using home computers, using school computers, or using any computer with internet access (including those at the public library).
- Only students and the teachers will be permitted to post to the blog.
- Postings will all be removed from the website at the end of the project.

Just as they have become an important communication tool in the world of current events, political campaigns, and public opinion, Blogs have become a terrific tool in the world of education. We are thrilled to offer your students the opportunity to take part in a twenty-first century learning experience under the close supervision of our wonderful teaching staff.

If you have any questions, please call your student's teacher directly. As always, I am available by phone (303-347-7870) and by e-mail (aoaks@lps.k12.co.us) throughout the day.

Sincerely,

Amy R. Oaks, Ph.D.
Principal

Goddard Middle School
"Closed Class Blog" Permission Form

Before your student may start posting to the class blog, we are asking for you and your child to discuss and sign the following form. Please return the form to _____ by _____.

Blogging terms and conditions:

1. Students using blogs are expected to act safely by keeping personal information out of their posts. If you post or give out your family name, password, user name, e-mail address, home address, or other information that could help someone locate or contact you in person, your posting will not be approved by the teacher and will not be posted to the blog.
2. Students using blogs agree not to share their password with anyone besides their teachers and parents.
3. Students agree never to log in as another student.
4. Students are expected to treat the blog as a classroom space. Speech and writing that is not appropriate for class is not appropriate for the blog and will not be posted by the teacher.
5. Students using blogs on GMS computers will protect the computers by not downloading unauthorized pictures or software.
6. Students who do not abide by these terms and conditions may lose their opportunity to take part in this project.

I have read and understood these blogging terms and conditions. I agree to uphold them.

Student _____ Date _____

Parent _____ Date _____

My student's e-mail address is _____

_____ Please help my student get an e-mail address for this project.

_____ I would like to observe the blog. My e-mail address is _____

_____ I prefer that my child not participate in the blog. Please give my student a different assignment.